



Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Four escapes from Khiam; 2 caught

BEIRUT (R) — Four prisoners escaped from Khiam prison in Israel's South-Lebanon "security zone" Monday but Israeli-backed militiamen captured two who strayed into a minefield, security sources said. One of those captured was injured in the hand and leg by a mine blast, the sources said. Militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were still combing the anti-guerrilla zone for the other fugitives late Monday afternoon. The jail break took place at 3 a.m. The SLA also sealed off the western end of Al Khiam village, a few hundred metres from the prison. The four, believed to be the first detainees to escape from Khiam, were not identified. Khiam, described by former inmates as "hell on earth," holds about 200 Lebanese and Palestinians captured in the 15-kilometre deep zone or during incursions into South Lebanon. Former prisoners have said they were tortured by Israeli interrogators at the prison although Israel says it is not responsible for what happens at the camp and puts the onus on the SLA.

New Jordan-Egypt trade accord signed

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour returned to Amman from Cairo Monday after attending meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Economic and Commercial Committee and the general assembly of the Jordanian-Egyptian Investment Corporation. The joint committee signed a new Jordanian-Egyptian trade agreement. The committee also approved the work of a preparatory committee and an experts committee which advised the old (1967) trade protocol to be finalised before the end of this year. The Jordanian-Egyptian Investments Corporation's general assembly reviewed the activities of the company and discussed its future plans. While in Cairo, Dr. Ensour met with Egyptian Prime Minister Ataf Sedki and Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and discussed bilateral relations.

Jordan beats 5: Arabia in basketball

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian national basketball team Monday defeated its Saudi counterpart 77-71 in its second match of the Pan-Arab Games hosted by Syria. The earlier beat Egypt 82-80. Jordan, title-holder of the last tournament held in Morocco in 1985, will play Kuwait Wednesday in the finals of Group A.

Iraq's U.N. envoy moved to UNESCO

PARIS (R) — Iraq's envoy to the United Nations, Abdul Aziz al-Anbani, has been appointed ambassador to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), a spokeswoman for the Iraqi delegation to UNESCO said Monday. Mr. Anbani, who represented Baghdad at the United Nations during the Gulf war, took up his post at Paris-based UNESCO last week. The job had been vacant for four months.

OIC meeting on Bosnia put off

JEDDAH (AP) — Foreign ministers of Islamic countries have put off an emergency session on Bosnia-Herzegovina, officials at the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) said Monday. A new date will be set when the ministers meet in New York on Oct. 2 on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly's annual session, said the officials. Among the reasons that prompted the postponement, the officials said, was the ministers' desire to evaluate the situation in the embattled former Yugoslav province with United Nations officials before holding their own meeting. The meeting, requested by Saudi Arabia, was planned for Sept. 12-13 in Jeddah. The OIC's foreign ministers met in an emergency session in Turkey last June to discuss the plight of Muslims fighting Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina. (see page 9)

Woman found dead in British embassy pool

CAIRO (R) — A woman working at the British embassy in Cairo was found dead in the embassy swimming pool, a spokesman said Monday. Local newspapers said Christine Brown, who was in her 30s, drowned after suffering a heart attack in the embassy pool on Saturday. "It was a tragic and sad accident," said the embassy spokesman, adding that foul play was not suspected. He said Mr. Brown had diplomatic status but the precise nature of her job at the embassy was not disclosed.

Peres heads for London and Paris

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres departed Monday for a four-day visit to Britain and France where he is to seek increased Israeli participation in the European Economy (see page 5). Mr. Peres is scheduled to meet with British Prime Minister John Major and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd Tuesday. He will then travel to Paris to meet with President Francois Mitterrand, Prime Minister Pierre Berengery and his French counterpart Roland Dumas.

Ciskei forces open fire at ANC rally, kill 28

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — Security forces in the black homeland of Ciskei opened fire Monday on African National Congress (ANC) supporters protesting the military government, and at least 28 people died and 162 were injured, officials said. Political leaders taking part in the march, including top ANC officials, dived for cover as troops blazed away with machine guns and rifles on the outskirts of Bisho, capital of the nominally independent homeland.

"People were paralysed — even the ANC leadership," said local journalist Guy Jepson. "It was absolutely terrifying."

ANC Secretary General Cyril Ramaphosa said 28 people were killed.

Mr. Ramaphosa gave the death toll at a news conference after the killing on the border of Ciskei in South Africa's eastern Cape Province.

A South African government spokesman said earlier 24 people had been killed and more than 150 wounded.

The shooting threatened to deepen the political crisis that has stalled talks between the South African government and the ANC and other black opposition groups on ending apartheid.

The deaths would make it even more difficult for the ANC to return to stalled talks with President F.W. de Klerk's government. The Ciskei government is an ally of South Africa and the ANC will blame Mr. De Klerk's administration for the killings. Ciskei defence chief Brigadier Marius Oelshag said his forces began shooting after being attacked by a group of marchers armed with handguns and grenades. But many eyewitnesses said the troops opened fire without provocation.

After firing hundreds of bullets, Ciskei forces hurled tear-gas at the demonstrators, who began fleeing.

Some 30,000 ANC supporters, led by Ramaphosa, had vowed to march through Bisho to protest the Ciskei government, which is unsympathetic to the black opposition movement. Mr. Ramaphosa was among those who threw themselves to the ground as shooting began.

The ANC is demanding the removal of the Ciskei's black military government.

South Africa's law and order minister, Hennie Kriel, blamed the ANC for the shootings, saying it was in "flagrant violation" of an agreement to allow

the march to go ahead.

Mr. De Klerk heard of the shootings while leading a meeting of allied political groups in Pretoria and indicated he also felt the ANC was at fault. "We are deeply shocked, by cooperation, it could have been avoided," he said.

The Ciskei government originally banned the march but on Monday a magistrate said it could go ahead on condition marchers stayed out of Bisho and rallied at the stadium. The ANC rejected the condition.

The first of two bursts of gunfire erupted when the marchers stormed through a back entrance of a stadium on Bisho's outskirts, according to witnesses. More shooting broke out a few minutes later, after protesters began ripping down razor wire erected to contain the march, they said.

"It is a horrific tragedy," said Antonio Gildenhuys, an observer from the National Peace Secretariat, a panel set up to monitor political violence in the country.

A similar ANC march last month almost led to a violent confrontation with the homeland's security forces.

There were reports later of

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U.N. team lays groundwork for long-term inspection in Iraq

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — U.N. weapons inspectors have taken technical steps to establish long-term monitoring of any future Iraqi attempts to revive a nuclear weapons programme, the head of an inspection team said Monday. "I am convinced their programme is totally dormant," said Maurizio Zifferero, an Italian nuclear engineer.

His group, which arrived at regional headquarters after a week in Baghdad, took water and sediment samples from 15 sites in Iraq to establish a data base for the monitoring programme, he said.

The next nuclear team due to leave for Baghdad within a few weeks will try to bring back water and river sediment samples from up to 40 sites throughout the country. He said the nuclear team had a coherent picture of Iraq's nuclear research and bomb-making efforts and capabilities. "It's a kind of urinalysis of

Iraq," said Mr. Zifferero. "Should they start again with important nuclear activity the fingerprints will inevitably leak into the water bodies."

Such monitoring could be expected to show if any secret underground facilities remain undetected, the team leader said.

Mr. Zifferero has disputed claims by Iraqi defectors that the team has yet to discover a major underground reactor, calling their statements "questionable."

The 62-year-old engineer said Iraq appeared to be eager to cooperate with the monitoring effort, hoping that it would lead to lifting the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

"We have practically no limitation in this long-term monitoring. We can go anywhere," he said.

Mr. Zifferero would not comment on whether he thought the destruction of the nuclear programme had reached a point that

warranted lifting sanctions.

"This is a political decision. Don't ask me," said Mr. Zifferero, who was a consultant for Iraq's atomic programme during the 1970s through the Italian Atomic Energy Commission, before they turned to weapons research.

On the apparent differences between himself and a previous nuclear team leader, David Kay, over the extent of Iraq's disclosures, Mr. Zifferero said he was going by the documentary evidence unearthed so far about the 10-year programme in which Iraq invested an estimated \$10 billion.

"I have to confine myself to what I have found," he said.

He said he personally did not believe that Iraq still had a hidden nuclear plant.

"Information gathered by intelligence pointed to the existence of a plant," he said.

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Iraq welcomes long-term inspection, page 2

Uday Hussein urges democratic reforms

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein's eldest son was Monday quoted as saying it was time democratic reforms were introduced in Iraq to thwart Western attempts to dismember the country.

"Time has come to apply democracy to disarm enemies of the weapon they brandish against Iraq," Uday Hussein wrote in an article in his newspaper Babal.

The call comes less than two weeks after the United States and its Gulf war allies imposed a no-fly zone over much of Iraq's Shiite south.

"Our people have reached the stage of complete political maturity," said Uday, without elaborating.

Uday spelled out the type of democracy he had in mind: It should be along the "democratic guidelines" set by President Saddam.

"We can apply all the paragraphs dealing with democracy in President Saddam Hussein's speeches... and settle the situation decisively in our favour," he said.

President Saddam pledged in his first speech after the Gulf war to introduce democratic changes including a new constitution, multi-party activity and freedom of press.

But he has repeatedly stressed that there would be no place for Western-style democracy in Iraq.

In a speech to a party congress last year he warned that anyone adopting Western values "would not be allowed in any circum-

stances and conditions to take any post in leadership or direct the political, social and cultural life of the country."

Iraq's multi-party law, issued in September 1991, legalised the creation of opposition political parties, but retained the leading role of the ruling Baath Party, granting it the key advantage in being solely allowed to campaign and lobby for members from the ranks of the army and security forces.

If law was rejected outright by opposition factions abroad and no-one at home has so far applied to create a political group.

Other promised reforms, like the new constitution and freedom of the press, are still on the shelf.

Iraq's rebellious Kurds, aided by a protective allied air umbrella in the north, held general elections for a parliament in May though Baghdad denounced them as illegal.

Uday said attempts were being made to transfer what had happened in the north to the Shiite south, most of it under the West's air umbrella.

"Elections must be held in an atmosphere free of faults and defects which the enemies (will later) use against us," said Uday, who heads Iraq's national Olympic Committee and Union of Iraqi Journalists.

Libyan leader Muammar

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq offers amnesty to deserters, page 5

Hekmatyar lists truce violations

ISLAMABAD (R) — A dissident Afghan leader has accused his rivals in Kabul's Islamic government of repeatedly violating a truce to halt three weeks of fighting, and called on peace mediators to take a stand.

In a letter to the peace delegation that negotiated the Aug. 29 ceasefire, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the Hezb-e-Islami mujahideen party, said: "The activities and expressions of the other side clearly show that they have intentions for fighting, this is why they don't honour their agreements."

In the letter, released by the Hezb-run Afghan News Agency in Pakistan, Mr. Hekmatyar accused his rivals of six truce violations.

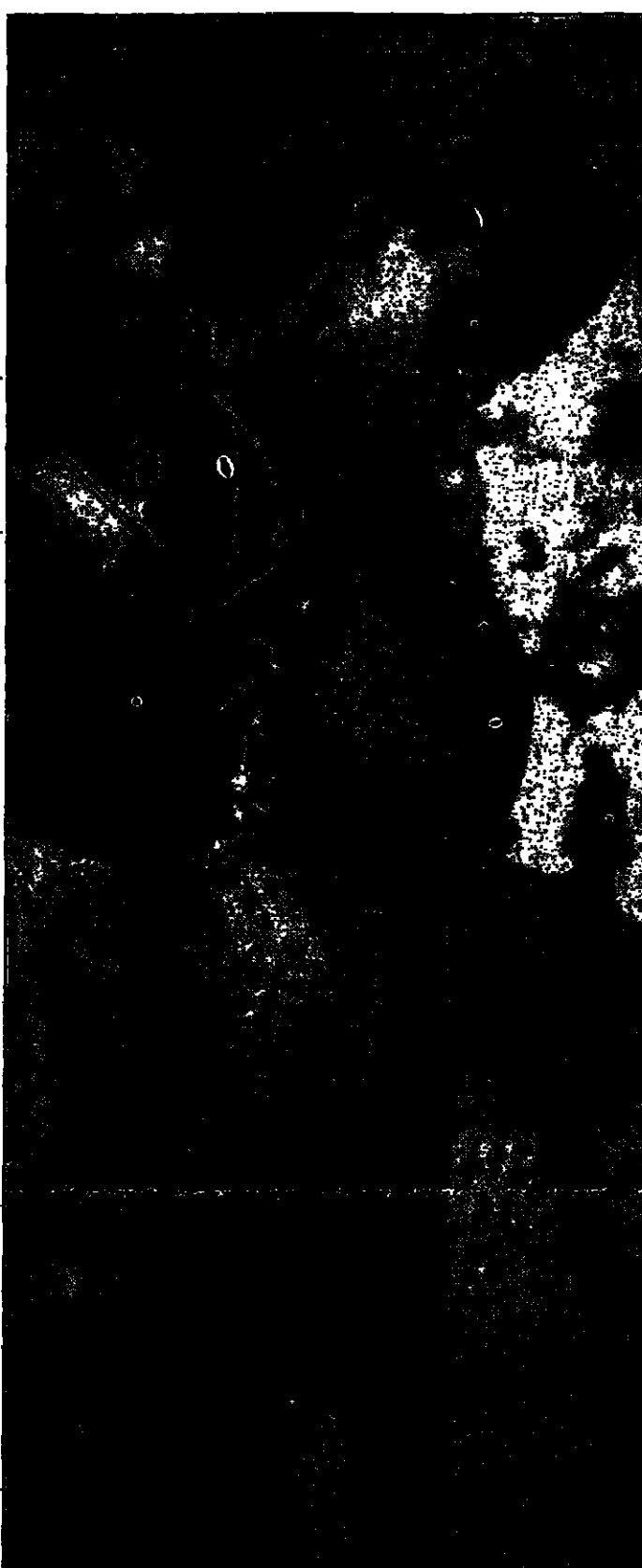
He said the four-month-old coalition government in Kabul had failed to remove formerly communist militia from the city — his main condition for the truce that ended three weeks of bloody fighting last month.

Mr. Hekmatyar said the Defence Ministry had said the militia was not integrated into its Islamic forces, and was using these men to evict Mujahideen fighters from the city.

He also accused the government of mounting a string of bombing raids on Shindand air base, held by the Hezb in western

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Refugees urge Islamic unity; 3 killed in Kabul, page 2



SOMALIS' FLIGHT: A mother washes her son with water from a kettle at the Baldo refugee camp in Somalia. At least two million people are starving in strife-torn Somalia and only a trickle of food is reaching them.

Hizbollah likely to control biggest bloc in parliament

BEIRUT (R) — The pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) is likely to control the biggest single bloc in the Lebanese parliament after scoring sweeping victories in the country's first election in 20 years.

Hizbollah and its pro-Syrian allies were well ahead of their political opponents in early results Monday following Sunday's third and final round of voting in an election boycotted by most mainstream Christians.

"The Christians should blame no one but themselves," one said. "They dropped the ball and Hizbollah picked it up," said a Western diplomat.

Diplomats said the once-politically dominant Christians had thrown away much of their power by boycotting the election in protest at the presence of Syrian troops in Beirut.

"Hizbollah and other (Muslim) groups campaigned well when the Christians gave them an opening by ruling themselves out" the diplomat added.

Diplomats and political analysts said it was unlikely that a Hizbollah victory would radically alter the balance of power in an Islamic state and the elimination of Israel, which controls a security corridor in the south.

"But... more people have to hear their voice," one said. "The 'Liberation List' of Nabih Berri, chief of the pro-Syrian Amal movement, including two Hizbollah candidates, gained an overwhelming majority in South Lebanon with almost half the votes counted following Sunday's round."

Former Parliamentary Speaker Kamel Al Assad accused his

opponents in the "Liberation list" of vote-rigging. Similar allegations were made by "opposition" candidates after the first two rounds.

"It is the largest rigging operation in the history of parliamentary elections in Lebanon," Mr. Assad said in a statement, adding that he and his allies withdrew their representatives from vote-counting centres in protest.

Officials said final results were expected by the middle of the week because of a high voter turnout in the Shiite Muslim heartland of southern Lebanon.

Christians, arguing the poll would only strengthen Syria's hold over Lebanon, failed to win a delay in the election until after the planned Syrian withdrawal from Beirut later this month.

The boycott by mainstream Christians means that pro-Syrian Christians will hold half of the seats in Lebanon's new 128-seat National Assembly, which under Lebanon's confessional political system is divided equally between both communities.

But it assured Sunni and Shiite fundamentalists of a clean sweep in mixed areas where Christian support was vital for the success of moderate Muslim candidates.

Hizbollah won six seats in the first two rounds and is allied with Sunni Muslim fundamentalists who took four seats. Two Christians and two other Sunnis were elected on the Hizbollah ticket in the eastern city of Baalbek.

A Sunni fundamentalist is seen as having an outside chance of winning a seat in the southern port of Sidon but even without him Hizbollah stands to control the biggest single bloc in the new parliament.

2 policemen, civilian killed in Algeria

ALGIERS (AP) — Two policemen and a civilian accompanying them were shot dead in their car, apparently by Islamic militants, police said Monday. Two other policemen were wounded in the attack late Sunday in Dellys, 100 kilometres east of Algiers, according to police, who blamed the attack on Muslim fundamentalists. The civilian reportedly was a candidate to join the police force. More than 150 members of the security forces have been killed in attacks since January, when authorities launched a crackdown on fundamentalists. Last December, fundamentalist candidates were on their way to winning Algeria's first democratic legislative elections since independence from France in 1962. Military leaders opposed to an Islamic state ousted President Chadli Ben Jedid and cancelled the second round of elections in January. The main fundamentalist party was banned, thousands of its followers jailed, and a state of emergency imposed.

Course of Shbeilat, Qarrash cases hinges on their 'cooperation'

By Mariam M. Shabbah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Detained Lower House of Parliament members Laith Shbeilat and Yacoub Qarrash will be asked to give their testimonies to Prosecutor General Muhammad Hijazi for the last and final time today before the prosecutor determines whether there is sufficient evidence to end the investigation into the alleged crimes of the accused or whether the investigations will continue.

Mr. Shbeilat was charged with transporting weapons in his car and Sheikh Qarrash faces charges of founding and arming an illegal Islamic militant group called Shabbab Al Nafeer Al Islami (Vanguard of the Islamic Youth).

Depending on the "cooperation" of the accused or their willingness to testify, the investigation could either continue or end today, according to high-ranking officials.

If the accused decide not to make any testimony to the pro-

secutor general the investigation will end and the cases will be referred to the State Security Court, officials said.

The accused deputies have said that they would only testify in court, sources said.

The lawyers of the accused have been denied access to the evidence that the prosecutor general has because the investigation is still open.

"None of us have had any access to the 'evidence' against our clients which the prosecutor general has kept under a tight lid, pending the conclusion of the investigation," said Mr. Shbeilat's lawyer Ibrahim Bakr.

Mr. Bakr told the Jordan Times that "normal procedures" allow defence lawyers to meet with their clients in private. But a special statute of the criminal law that the prosecutor general chose to activate allows for an exception which allows the lawyers to meet with their clients only in

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Rabin: Syria did not offer to normalise ties

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel's prime minister said Monday that Syria did not offer to normalise relations with his country in the recent Middle East peace talks, even if Israel returned the occupied Golan Heights.

Yitzhak Rabin, speaking by satellite to the B'nai B'rith international convention, said Syria only proposed a peace agreement that would not include diplomatic or commercial ties.

"The way I understand their position, they're speaking that even for total withdrawal from the Golan Heights, they are ready only to (sign) a peace agreement, but not to normalise the relationship," Mr. Rabin said.

"Not a peace treaty. Not open boundaries. Not embassies. Not commercial and cultural relationships."

Mr. Rabin said it was unclear whether the Syrian offer "stands

on its own feet or is related to the achievement of an agreement in other sections of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

The prime minister, who said patience will be needed in the talks, added the Israeli and Syrian negotiators did not discuss redrawing boundaries between the countries.

Mr. Rabin also urged Palestinian negotiators to accept a plan for local elections and a five-year period of interim self-government in the Israeli-held territories.

He said talks with Lebanon only involve security, not territory. There's "no demand on the part of Israel for one square inch of Lebanese territory," he said.

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party returned to power after winning elections in June, promising to negotiate peace with the Palestinians and Israel's neighbours.

Peres defends 'autonomy' plan, page 2

Egypt takes over disputed Halaib, diplomats report

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has quietly asserted control over a border area disputed with Sudan, security sources and diplomats said Monday.

Egypt has the past few months doubled its border posts in the Halaib triangle, and boosted the Egyptian state's presence by symbolic moves such as television broadcasting from the area and sending state religious officials to register mosques.

Sudanese civil administration offices are still in the area, security sources say, but Cairo is now preparing its own local administration and telling the mainly nomadic population to give up Sudanese identity papers and use only Egyptian ones.

The dispute over the largely empty desert area flared last January, aggravating already bad relations between Egypt and Sudan's fundamentalist inclined military rulers.

Cairo, accuses Khartoum of harbouring Muslim extremist groups and is suspicious of its friendship with Iran.

But despite a bitter war of words and stalled talks, diplomats said the Halaib dispute looked unlikely to spill over into military conflict.

"Egypt already occupies the land and has no need to strike... and Sudan is in no position to take Egypt on," a Western diplomat said.

The Halaib triangle measures about 300 kilometres along its base, the 22nd Parallel north, bordering on undisputed Egyptian and Sudanese territory on two of its sides and the Red Sea on its third.

Under a 1956 agreement, Khartoum set up offices in the area largely handling identity

papers for nomads. A crisis briefly flared in 1958 when Egypt refused Sudan's demand for a local referendum and sent troops to the area.

The latest crisis started in January after Sudan granted an international oil firm an exploration concession in Halaib's territorial waters.

An Egyptian military source said Egypt had boosted its presence in the area from 10 border posts to 20 in the last two months. No figures for the number of troops in the area were available. Sudan has no armed forces stationed in Halaib.

Al-Ahram newspaper said Sunday the government would double the basic salaries of workers in the area, the latest of a series of moves to build up a settled Egyptian population.

The two countries formed a joint committee which met in Khartoum in April and agreed to meet again in Cairo in October, but Egyptian officials have delayed setting an actual date.

Sudan has complained that Egyptian measures on the ground are designed to preempt the committee's negotiations and create complete de facto control of the area from Cairo.

Egypt maintains the 22nd Parallel is its "political" boundary under an 1899 treaty signed by Egypt and Britain on behalf of its then protectorate Sudan, and all land north of that is Egyptian.

The 1956 agreement recognising a different "administrative" boundary which slopes from the 22nd Parallel north-east until it hits the Red Sea — creating the Halaib "triangle" — in no way affected Egypt's sovereignty, Cairo says.

Peres defends 'autonomy' plan

LONDON (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has called Palestinian demands for sovereignty in the West Bank and Gaza Strip "wanting a child without pregnancy" and defended Israel's own formula for interim limited self-rule.

In an interview with the Financial Times, Mr. Peres dismissed Palestinian fears that Israel's proposal for an interim agreement in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip would form the basis for a final settlement.

"It doesn't have a permanent nature. This should be a sort of trial period which will give all of us time to reach a permanent solution," Mr. Peres was quoted as saying in the interview published Monday.

Mr. Peres spoke after Middle East peace talks in Washington adjourned for 10 days last Thursday.

"We are doing things which are tangible and real. They (the Palestinians) can see by the criticism and opposition that exists in Israel that we are serious."

"They want a child without pregnancy," Mr. Peres said. "That is a little hard to achieve."

Palestinians and Israelis are negotiating a five-year period of limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Talks on a permanent settlement are to begin three years from the start of Palestinian self-rule.

Israel has proposed Palestinian elect an administrative council to run 15 areas of life such as health and education under existing laws. Palestinians want an assembly with law-making powers of a sovereign parliament.

Mr. Peres, a former prime minister and ex-leader of the governing Labour Party, is in charge of unilateral talks between the various parties to the Middle East peace process.

Those talks cover arms control, economic cooperation, water resources, the environment and refugees.

Mr. Peres said regional arrangements for open trade among the Arab states and Israel would benefit all sides.

"The whole region of the Middle East is not such a big market, not for the Arabs, not for us," he said.

Golan settlers meet Rabin

Jewish settlers of the Golan Heights, concerned that talks with Syria could ultimately cost them their homes, met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Sunday for clarification of Israel's policy.

Mr. Rabin told the settlers that although U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 238 — which call for trading land for peace — apply to talks with Syria, each side interprets them differently.

An announcement by the Israeli team to peace talks in Washington last month tying U.N. Resolution 242 to negotiations with Syria first raised the settlers' concerns.

"We oppose any question mark put over the Golan Heights, moving just one block will hurt the entire area... we are convinced that the direction must be different," said Yehuda Wolman, head of the Golan Heights regional council.

Mr. Rabin's spokesman, Gad Ben Ari, said the prime minister explained to the group Israel's positions as articulated to the Syrians during the talks in Washington.

"Israel wants to have full-fledged peace with Syria, and in the context of the peace negotiations with Syria, Security Council Resolutions 242 and 238 are applied and each side has its own interpretation for those resolutions," Mr. Ben Ari said.

Mr. Rabin has reportedly said that Israel does not need "every centimetre" of the Golan Heights.

On Sunday Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldmann said he too supported "minor concessions" in the Golan.

Mr. Goldmann said that since Israel signed the 1974 disengagement agreement with Syria, "the Syrian border is the quietest." Under the treaty, Syria regained the city of Kuneitra from Israel.

Eli Malkha, a Golan settler leader, told Israel Television that Israel had already "ceded all that was possible."

"If Israel now will propose another interim agreement of a little peace for a little land, I have no doubt that the next stage will be... a lot of peace for a lot of territory, meaning withdrawal from the Golan Heights," Mr. Malkha said.

Golan settlers contend that the strategic Heights are necessary for Israel's "security" and hold vital water resources.

The Golan group also planned to ask for government backing for further development of the area, but were told by Mr. Rabin: "You simply do not understand the reality that there is 12 per cent unemployment in this country."

Mr. Rabin has pledged to give job creation top priority.



EMIGRES PROTEST: Ethiopian Jews protest outside Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office Sunday against racism and unfair treatment by the Israeli government. About 1,000 Ethiopian immigrants, many wearing traditional dress and shading themselves with brightly-coloured parasols, chanted in Amharic: "We are Jews just like other Jews, recognise us." The protesters have complained Israel segregates them, does not recognise their communal religious leaders or "kibbutz" and has not done enough to find them suitable housing.

Rafsanjani visits Pakistan, calls for Islamic unity

ISLAMABAD (R) — Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani Monday condemned recent factional fighting in Afghanistan as barbaric and warned that reconstruction of his war-ravaged neighbour would take at least 20 years.

"In Afghanistan people kill each other. This belongs to the barbaric period, to the dark ages... they will not be able to offer any answer to God," Mr. Rafsanjani said in an address to a joint session of Pakistan's parliament.

Hailing Islam as the world's most powerful unifying force against "arrogant Western powers," the Iranian president called for an end to differences between Shiite and Sunni, between Pashtun and Persian.

"We are all Muslim brothers," he said to vigorous applause.

Mainly Sunni Pakistan has been troubled in recent years by clashes between Sunni extremists and minority Shiites.

Mr. Rafsanjani arrived Sunday for a four-day visit and talks likely to focus on last month's bloody battles in Kabul between dissident Hezb-e-Islami chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a Pashtun, and the four-month-old Islamic government.

He described the battles as a result of "the ignorance and immorality of those who fight each other over nothing" — a veiled attack against Mr. Hekmatyar who subjected Kabul to three weeks of blistering rocket assaults in which 2,000 people died.

"Whoever takes responsibility for Afghanistan, we should kiss his hand," he said, adding that it was no easy task to govern a nation emerging from a 14-year war of resistance against the former Soviet-backed government.

"The reconstruction will take at least 20 years with hard work," he said.

He said Iran was not interfering in Afghanistan and denied reports Pakistan and Iran were competing for influence there.

"No-one has an ambition to interfere unless he is crazy and wants to lose his own life," Mr. Rafsanjani told parliament.

Pakistan served as a conduit for international arms to the Mujahedeen parties during the war and its military intelligence was deeply involved with several groups, especially Mr. Hekmatyar.

Iran is believed to be close to the Shiite Hezb-e-Wahdat party that engaged in fierce battles with the Saudi-backed Sunni Ittihad-e-Islami party in western Kabul in June and July.

Cairo says fate of Gulf security pact will be decided tomorrow

CAIRO (AP) — The fate of the Damascus Declaration, a pact for military and economic cooperation between Gulf countries and Egypt and Syria, will be decided in a meeting in Qatar next Wednesday, a Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

"The future of cooperation between the Damascus Declaration countries depends on the results of this meeting during which each country will state its position," said the official.

The meeting will be held at foreign ministers level in the Qatari capital Doha.

The so-called Damascus Declaration was signed in February 1991 between Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the aftermath of Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

According to the original document, Egypt and Syria were to provide up to 100,000 troops to be based in the Gulf to safeguard the oil-rich states from future threats. In exchange, the Gulf states were to earmark up to \$15 billion for development projects in the two countries.

But the military pact faltered quickly under opposition from Iran and Turkey. And since then Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar have signed security agreements with the United States and other Western countries.

The Egyptian official said that Egypt has presented a paper to the Damascus declaration members outlining its position. He said that regarding security, "Egypt envisions that each of the eight members will keep on call 'a reasonable number' of trained troops which can be deployed quickly if any of the member-states is threatened."

He said regular military manoeuvres can be held to coordinate the troops. The official said that the military chiefs of staff of the eight countries can meet regularly to discuss possible threats against their respective countries.

The Egyptian paper also calls for regular meetings between foreign ministers of the eight countries and monthly meetings between their ambassadors for further coordination.

One source reportedly suggested creating a \$15 billion fund for development projects in Arab countries. According to the Omani paper presented to the Damascus Declaration states, \$5 billion have already been gathered.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

UAE urges Arabs to help Somalia

NICOSIA (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) urged Arab leaders Sunday to take immediate steps to rescue famine-hit Somalia and said they should have moved far sooner. "We have no right as brothers to remain as spectators," a Foreign Ministry official source said in a statement carried by the Emirates News Agency (WAM). He said Arab states should have moved far sooner to "rescue the Somalia people from the deadly tragedy of famine and killings. The UAE addresses this call to the Arab leaders and all the warring factions in Somalia to make an immediate move before it is too late... to solve the Somali crisis by any means," WAM quoted him as saying. Somalia, whose infrastructure was destroyed by the war that toppled dictator Mohammed Siad Barre in January 1991 and the clan warfare that followed, is a member of the Arab League. The Foreign Ministry called for national reconciliation and an end to the fighting. It said the UAE was ready to take part in the rescue effort with its "Arab brothers in all ways."

Observers say Djibouti vote was fair

DJIBOUTI (R) — Nine international observers who monitored Friday's referendum on a new constitution said on Sunday it had been managed "peacefully and within a context of fairness." The observers, from the United Nations, the Arab League, and the Organisation of African Unity, said in a statement broadcast on national television that there had been "some deficiencies" which could be attributed to "a certain lack of experience in electoral matters." They did not elaborate. The government said the referendum on a constitution, which will give the Red Sea republic its first multi-party government, had been a success. Elections are scheduled for November. With full results still awaited, the government estimated there had been a 90 per cent "yes" vote from the 75 per cent of eligible voters who took part. A government spokesman rejected allegations by the local Association for the Defence of Human Rights and Freedoms that less than half the population had voted.

Israeli official to visit Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin will visit Cairo Friday to discuss developments in the Arab-Israeli peace talks, Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources said Sunday. They said Mr. Beilin would have talks with Foreign Minister Amr Musa and Osama Al Baz, President Hosni Mubarak's top political adviser.

Kazakh prime minister visits Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — The prime minister of Kazakhstan, Sergei Tereshchenko, arrived in Israel Sunday for a two-day official visit to promote trading links. Israel and the largely Muslim former Soviet republic established diplomatic ties in April. The prime minister's office said Mr. Tereshchenko, who is accompanied by several ministers, was scheduled to meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and business leaders.

Police arrest 6 extremists in Port Said

CAIRO (AP) — Police arrested six Muslim extremists who have burned video clubs and movie theatres in the northern Mediterranean city of Port Said, a police official said Monday. The official, who requested anonymity, said the six were arrested Saturday and are being interrogated by the prosecution about the arson that happened last month. He said four are students, one is a salesman and one an employee in the Suez Canal Authority. Muslim extremists want to apply Islamic law in Egypt and consider movies un-Islamic, unless they deal with religion.

British soldiers banned from Cyprus resort

NICOSIA (R) — British soldiers from there units serving in Cyprus have been banned from the holiday resort of Ayia Napa following police allegations of indecency and assault. A British army spokesman said Monday the resort would remain out of bounds for a week while the complaints were being investigated. Cyprus police arrested four British soldiers in the resort, popular with young holidaymakers from Britain and the continent, early Sunday. Two had charged and released while the other two were in custody, the police said. The police alleged two of the soldiers were involved in a fight with Cypriots after a tourist was beaten.

Iraq welcomes long-term nuclear inspections

By Nicholas Phythian
Renter

BAGHDAD — The world's nuclear watchdog, after cautiously acknowledging that Iraq no longer has the means to build a nuclear bomb, is getting ready to make sure Baghdad never becomes a member of the nuclear arms club.

Iraq is showing signs of willingness to cooperate because it is anxious to win relaxation of a painful two-year-old U.N. trade blockade.

"The most important task, at least from the political point of view, is to implement a long-term, on-going monitoring plan," said Professor Maurizio Zifferero, head of the latest U.N. nuclear inspection team to visit Iraq and deputy director of Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Mr. Zifferero said the Iraqis cooperated fully with his team and appeared keen to cooperate with the next phase — "to make sure through continuous inspection" that Baghdad did not resume its nuclear activities.

"I believe that we are approaching that phase very rapidly," he said.

He said Iraq had accepted the principle of long-term monitoring and appeared very keen to start.

Baghdad hoped the start of monitoring would lead to an IAEA declaration that it was complying with the ceasefire resolution and that this would in turn "facilitate the lifting" of sanctions, Mr. Zifferero said.

But with Washington accusing Iraq of "cheat and retreat" tactics and U.S. President George Bush fighting for reelection, diplomats there is little prospect of moving to ease sanctions until after the U.S. election in November.

Mr. Zifferero raised spirits in Baghdad last week when he said publicly that his nuclear programme was "at zero."

"In experts' opinion, in the IAEA opinion, (the view) is that there is no possibility to carry on any activities in the nuclear area," he told reporters.

He qualified his remarks by saying there was a question mark over whether Iraq had underground sites where it could carry out secret nuclear activities.

the requirements of (U.N. Security Council) Resolution 687," Mr. Zifferero said.

Resolution 687, which formalised the ceasefire after a U.S.-led alliance ousted Iraqi troops from Kuwait in February 1991, calls for elimination of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Diplomats say Iraq is anxious for some sign from the Security Council that cooperation with U.N. inspectors dismantling its ballistic and chemical arsenals and neutralising its nuclear and gas warfare capability will lead to a lifting of the trade blockade.

Washington, which mistrusts Iraq and now has planes policing its northern and southern skies, has vowed to help ensure that inspectors can search wherever they want.

Baghdad prevented U.N. inspectors for 23 days in July from searching its Ministry of Agriculture for weapons data.

Some diplomats say Iraq, which has since ruled all ministries off-limits to U.N. inspectors on grounds of national sovereignty, is ready to be flexible if it sees light at the end of the tunnel.

"The Iraqi idea is to have sanctions lifted," one said, but he added:

"Their belief is that whatever they do they cannot expect any flexibility from the U.N. or the U.S. side."

Mr. Zifferero said the Iraqis were anxious for long-term monitoring to start because they believed that once it was in place it would automatically lead to eventual relaxation of the sanctions.

"There is a mechanism, a built-in mechanism for which they really push us to start this monitoring plan," Mr. Zifferero said.

But diplomats cautioned against an early move to ease the sanctions. "It's unlikely before the U.S. presidential election in November," said one.

NEWS ANALYSIS

"We do not neglect this aspect but so far we have searched for it. We have no evidence whatsoever of these activities," he said.

"Our current thinking is that although we cannot rule out a surprise, these surprises are not very probable."

While not the declaration of a "clean bill of health" in the nuclear field sought by Iraq, Mr. Zifferero's remarks were music to Iraqi ears.

"It's good news in view of

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Salama Daboudi 776751
Dr. Ramzi Mizzawi 894788
Dr. Kayed Hakeem 793522
Dr. Saeed Abu Hatab 649846
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Aqsa pharmacy 630535
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shakhsan pharmacy 637660

WEATHER

It will be partly cloudy and a drop in temperature will take place. Winds will be southeasterly moderate to fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In Amman it will be mild with northerly fresh winds and calm seas.

Amman Min./Max. temp. 18 / 26
Dhahran 24 / 34
Dhahran 17 / 32
Jordan Valley 22 / 33

REDE: Dr. Ahmad Bishara 63101
Al Shams pharmacy 637625

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:30 Documentary
18:30 Marc et Sophie
19:30 News in French
19:15 Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Acropolis Now
21:00 Mr. Bean
21:30 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: "The Karate Kid"

PRAYER TIMES

04:51 Fajr
06:10 (Sunrise) Duha
12:34 Dhuhr
16:47 Asr
18:57 Maghrib
20:16 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetliah, Tel. 810740
Assumption of God Church, Tel. 637285
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Trinitas Church Tel. 72366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628542
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773681
St. Raphael Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623624, 654952
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691
Church of the Redeemer Tel. 636256

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630461
Police 199
Rescue Police 152, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 773121
Highway Police 864462
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 60321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Prison Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdullah Telephone Hospital 661101

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hamda Medical Centre 813813/32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6
Alkhaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 644412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Molteni, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, St. George 664717/4
Shamsan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845945
Al-Musayib Hospital 667219
The Islamic, Amman 660220/7
Al-Ahli, Amman 664164/6
Italian, Al-Musayib 771101/3
Al-Shamir, J. Amman 771112/6
Army, Amman 897611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 66240/20
Amal Hospital 674133
ZARQA: Zarka Govt. Hospital (09)983323

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (05)3280-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:30 Paris, Rome (RJ)
12:30 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30 Cairo (RJ)
13:30 London (RJ)
14:30 Jeddah (RJ)
14:30 Aden (RJ)
14:30 Larnaca (RJ)
14:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
14:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:00 Beirut (RJ)
06:30 Beirut, Rome (RJ)
14:15 Cairo (RJ)
14:30 Riyadh (RJ)
01:00 Bucharest (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in Jds per kg

Apple (red) 200 / 250
Banana 200 / 350
Banana (Mikammar) 150 / 100
Beans 400 / 300
Cabbage 120 / 100
Carrot 250 / 400
Cauliflower 250 / 180
Cucumbers (large) 140 / 100
Cucumbers (small) 240 / 200
Eggplant 90 / 30
Lemon 600 / 500
Lettuce 250 / 180
Marrow (large) 150 / 100
Marrow (small) 280 / 220
Onion (dry) 150 / 100
Onion (green) 150 / 100
Potato 800 / 700
Pumpkin 600 / 500
Spinach 200 / 120
Pepper (hot) 150 / 100
Pepper (sweet) 200 / 120
Sweet Melon 180 / 120
Tomato 150 / 100
Watermelon 130 / 50

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Watermelon 130 / 50

Prophet's birthday celebrated with religious ceremonies

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs will Tuesday organise a religious ceremony at the Palace of Culture in celebration of Prophet Mohammad's birthday which falls on Wednesday.

The ceremony, which will be held under Royal patronage, will be addressed by Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Al Khatib Al Tamimi as well as a number of Muslim scholars.

Director of Public Relations at the Ministry of Awqaf Fuad Nadjawi said the celebrations will

also include a scouts procession in Jabal Al Hussein and religious ceremonies in various parts of the Kingdom. Armed forces brass bands will accompany the procession, he said.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Awqaf said Monday it had received more donations from people who responded to His Majesty King Hussein's call for diverting money allocated to celebrating his recovery to charity works. It said Jordanian individuals and organisations have been depositing their donations at special accounts it had opened at the Arab Bank, the Housing Bank and the Islamic Bank.

British grant to finance water resources development

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Britain Monday signed an agreement under which the British Government will grant Jordan £2.3 million to help it develop its water resources.

The agreement was signed in Amman Monday by Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz and British Ambassador to Jordan Patrick Byers.

According to an official statement, the grant will finance the purchase of equipment and machinery that would be used in executing a water drilling project at the Al Disi district in southern Jordan.

The statement said the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) will be in charge of the project, which entails determining the amounts of available underground water that can be exploited for various purposes and the utilisation of the aquifers.

In a statement to Jordan Television, Mr. Byers said: "We are particularly happy to be associated with this project which is of great importance for Jordan and an expression of very old



Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz (right) and British Ambassador to Amman Patrick Byers Monday sign an agreement under which Britain will grant Jordan £2.3 million (Petra photo).

friendship." In a statement to the Jordan Times in July this year, WAJ Director General Mutaz Bilbeisi said Jordan hopes to start pumping water from Al Disi area in 1996.

Jordan's domestic water consumption last year reached 175 million cubic metres or 24 per cent of the total water consumption was predicted to increase to 300 million cubic metres by the year 2005, when the population is expected to reach 5.46 million.

Severe water shortages were reported by WAJ over the past few years, prompting it to execute water distribution programmes to ensure sufficient supplies

to various districts.

In his statement to the Jordan Times, Mr. Bilbeisi warned that the water shortage crisis in Jordan would assume larger proportions by 2000 when the country will have tapped all its available resources without meeting the needs of its growing population.

Earlier this month it was announced that WAJ was seeking a JD 20 million soft loan, probably from the Social Security Corporation (SSC), to finance a project of substituting the old water network in Amman. WAJ said that nearly 30 per cent of the water pumped at present is lost through leakage in the old network.

Seminar urges regional cooperation in handling solid waste

AMMAN (J.T.) — A regional training seminar on effective handling of solid waste Monday called on the concerned authorities to collect and disseminate data related to solid waste and the danger it poses to public health.

In a statement issued upon the conclusion of the three-week meetings, participants stressed the need for adopting proper methods in dealing with solid waste at the regional level and launching a campaign to inform the public of its dangers.

The participants, who represented 14 different Arab and Islamic countries, also called for continuous training courses for cadres employed in the field of protecting the environment to upgrade their skills.

They also called on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to help introduce and apply a regional strategy for dealing with solid waste in order to its danger to public health.

Health Minister Aref

nology used in addressing such questions.

Nearly 100 participants attended the one-day seminar which was opened by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Secretary General Asim Ghoshieh.

The ministry has prepared a study on air pollution in Jordan, revealing that the transport sector consumes about 1.2 million tonnes of fuel, emitting exhaust gases and fumes estimated at nearly 19 million tonnes of which 2.4 million tonnes are carbon dioxide.

Two dangers are caused by traffic in Jordan: road accidents and environmental pollution. Mr. Ghoshieh told the seminar. Among speakers at the seminar was Mr. Walter Rodel, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation's representative in Jordan who said that pollution resulting from traffic has been causing environmental diseases, depression and high blood pressure among other hazards.

Vienna meeting to discuss UNRWA's financial status

AMMAN (J.T.) — The financial situation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) will be high on the agenda of an annual meeting by the agency's advisory commission which will start in Vienna Thursday.

UNRWA offers health education and social services to Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Jordan. It is financed by donations from various countries.

Jordan will be represented at the meeting by Mr. Adel Irshaid, director general of the foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department. Mr. Irshaid will leave for the Austrian capital Wednesday.

Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon Belgium, France, Japan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States will attend the meeting.

According to Mr. Irshaid, the meeting will review a general annual report on the agency's work and operations between

July 1991 and June 1992. The report will be submitted to the U.N. General Assembly at its session later this month.

He said that the agency's services to Palestinian refugees and the general financial situation of UNRWA will be the focus of the meeting.

Before the advisory commission gathering, he said, Arab countries hosting refugees will hold a meeting to coordinate their position on the reports which will be read out at the conference.

Mr. Irshaid said he would also hold side meetings with UNRWA's commissioner general Ilter Turkmen and other senior officials at the agency about the level of services it offers to Palestinian refugees with a view to improving them.

Since 1950 UNRWA has provided relief services for the needy among Palestinian refugees in the Middle East region, including those living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Iraq tries to coax traders back after executions

AMMAN (R) — Iraq, facing shortages of basic foods, has been trying to coax merchants in Jordan back into the market after it executed 42 businessmen accused of profiteering, traders and officials said.

The Iraqi government said last week it would distribute a month of food rations in advance to its citizens after traders of goods from Jordan dried up when President Saddam Hussein declared war on profiteering.

"They've been sending officials here to talk to merchants but as far as I know they haven't had much success," said one Jordanian official Sunday.

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they see as a riskier market with lower profit margins.

Iraqi said the executed traders' assets had been seized by Baghdad. Any mourning at home for the dead men was in secret.

"Some of them were taking advantage of the situation but a lot of them were honest men," said one Iraqi businessman.

The current climate had pushed out traders running small or medium-sized businesses, he added.

Iraq last month banned the import of more than 100 items from silk and costume jewellery to baking powder, olive oil, sesame seeds, shampoo and beer.

"Merchants have until November 1 to unload supplies of such goods, after that any violations will be dealt with severely," a statement said.

Iraq's Planning Minister Samal Majed Faraj told Reuters in an interview in Amman last week the action against profiteers had effectively curbed abuses.

Although no figures are available some officials said the executions, combined with Amman's

stepped up enforcement of U.N. sanctions against Iraq, have significantly reduced food shipments from Jordan.

Exports to Iraq, slashed by the Gulf crisis to nine per cent of total Jordanian exports from 25 per cent before Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait and subsequent U.N. sanctions, have now dropped below that figure, said Jordanian economist Faleh Al Faneh.

"In effect the Iraqi measure has helped to tighten the blockade," said Dr. Faneh, adding that the thriving black market had proved a necessary and positive force in the Iraqi economy.

Analysts said some traders may be shifting their Iraq-bound exports to Turkey, whose border with Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq has come under less world scrutiny than Jordan's frontier.

Relief officials say a drop in aid by private humanitarian agencies which have pulled out of Iraq over the last six months has added to the food shortages.

House bloc joins committee on deputies arrests

AMMAN (Petra) — The Constitutional Bloc at the Lower House of Parliament has decided to join a parliamentary committee which was formed Sunday to follow up developments in the arrests of deputies Leith Shbeilat and Yaqoub Qarrash.

The two House members were recently detained for investigations on charges of possession of explosives and forming illegal organisations respectively.

The bloc will be represented at the committee by Dr. Abdul Majid Shreideh, who said the bloc's decision to join the committee was based upon its belief that

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Kabariti opens Madaba employment office

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Monday opened an employment office in Madaba to serve job-seekers in the district and help employers fill vacant posts.

Mr. Kabariti also visited the Sahab Industrial City south of Amman where he inspected the conditions of workers at the Danish Food Industries Company and a clothes manufacturing company. The minister was briefed on the work process at the two companies and incentives they

offer to their employees.

Mr. Kabariti also met with officials at Amman Labour and Foreigners Employment Offices in Jabal Al Hussein, urging them to facilitate employment procedures for job-seekers and foreign workers in the Kingdom.

The minister also visited the Vocational Training Corporation's (VTC) Occupational Health Safety Institute where he was briefed by its director Ahmad Al Masri on its objectives and activities.

WHAT'S GOING ON Exhibitions

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Ali Ridha at Alla Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Rakan Dabdoub at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "A Dialogue in Expression" — works on paper by Naw Karamallah, Nabila Elmad and Dodi Taban at the National Gallery, Jabal Lwadihah Park.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "The Horizon" by Artist Qasem Al Samir and Najah Al Kabi at the Housing Bank Gallery.

Uday Hussein urges reforms

(Continued from page 1) Qadhafi said a Shiite state in Iraq would be an extension of Iran and could lead to the downfall of neighbouring Arab Gulf regimes.

Colonel Qadhafi said that Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states were wrong in accepting the U.S.-led "no-fly" zone banning Iraqi aircraft from flying south of the 32nd Parallel. He said this could lead to a Shiite state in southern Iraq which could "slaughter" them.

"This would mean the beginning of the end for the Gulf regimes," Col. Qadhafi said. "The Shiites fight, (they) are revolutionary and rejectionist. A Shiite state in southern Iraq would be an extension for Iran."

"The flame of the revolution will inevitably flare up in the Arab Peninsula if a Shiite state is set up in southern Iraq," Col. Qadhafi's speech at a troop graduation ceremony was

carried by Libyan Television Sunday night. The broadcast said he made the speech Sept. 2.

Col. Qadhafi said Gulf states have accepted the "no-fly" zone because the West instructed them to. He attacked the Gulf states for doing nothing to stop Israeli air raids on Shiites in southern Lebanon.

"Our poor brothers in the Arab Peninsula know that the Israelis are slaughtering the Shiites... in southern Lebanon. What kind of sympathy is that for the Shiites in southern Iraq? Is it logical?" he asked.

Turkish President Turgut Ozal said Sunday he has proof that Iraq provided support to a Turkish Kurdish guerrilla group which is fighting for self-rule in Turkey's southeastern region.

"We have evidence in hand that Saddam Hussein had established camps for them, trained them and provided them with arms."

Ministry of Culture Secretary General Mohammad Amareh Monday announced a JD 5,150 award to be presented at the end of the Jordanian Children Theatre Festival (Petra photo).

Six plays to be presented at children's festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Six theatrical works will be presented at the first Jordanian Children Theatre Festival, which will open at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) next month.

Secretary General of the Ministry of Culture Mohammad Amareh told a press conference Monday that the six works were chosen from 21 scripts that were presented to the ministry.

Mr. Amareh said an award of JD 5,150 will be divided among the best playwrights, actors and directors who will participate at the festival, which will be held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The festival will include a carnival that will proceed from the RCC to the King Abdullah Gar-

dens. Mr. Amareh said that children and their parents will march in the carnival.

Mr. Amareh said the Ministry of Culture is organising a children's theatre archives and will soon complete the national library project.

Meanwhile, The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) said it was preparing a campaign to mark the Arab and International Child Day which will be observed October 5 to 11.

NHF Director General Inam Al Muti said that the Kingdom will observe the anniversary by organising short story writing and poetry recitals competitions among children. The NHF will also organise seminars at schools and visits to orphanages.

Results of community college exam announced

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education Monday announced the results of the general examination for graduates from community colleges in the 1991-92 academic year.

Mr. Ahmad Sweiti, director of examinations at the Ministry of Higher Education, told a press conference that 66.86 per cent of the students have passed the examination.

The total number of students taking the examination this year was 22,636, of whom 15,136 passed, said Mr. Sweiti.

Jordan has 57 community colleges which admit students who pass the tawjihi exam in two-year programmes. Students have to sit for the general examination which is supervised by the Minister of Higher Education.

Mr. Sweiti told the Jordan Times that not all community colleges prepared their students for the specialisations which the examinations covered.

In whole, the examination was organised for students in 10 different programmes in 81 specialisations, said Mr. Sweiti. He said 1327 students sat for the engineering programme examination, 71 for agriculture, 1768 for paramedics, 3401 for administrative and financial courses, 1081 computer, 26 for hotel management, 312 for applied arts and 172 for social work.

GUVS to build toy factory

AMMAN (Petra) — The Executive Board of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has decided to set up a factory for producing children's toys and furniture at a cost of JD750,000. A special committee has been formed to prepare the necessary studies on the project.

The GUVS board also decided to donate children's toys and furniture worth JD17,000 to 23 welfare societies throughout Jordan, and has started furnishing the two handicapped centres in Sult and Tafleh. At a meeting, chaired by the GUVS President, Abdullah Al Khatib, the board

also decided to grant JD45,000 loans to students in various parts of the Kingdom to enable them to pursue their academic studies. It also decided to hold training courses for treasurers of GUVS branches in Irbid, Karak, Zarqa and Tafleh.

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Thabet Taher
Managing Director

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975
مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 6671171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

'NAM must still shape up or else'

THE Non-Aligned Movement's summit concluded its six-day sessions Sunday in Jakarta with the adoption of a flamboyant document called the "Jakarta Message." The message purports to end the movement's traditional confrontational stance with the West. A closer look at the contents of the string of resolutions adopted by the 108-member organisation, reveals that the confrontation with the industrial nations of the North is still there and undiminished.

Take for example the commitment of the movement to democratising the United Nations system by seeking to "revitalise, restructure and democratise the international organisation and its specialised agencies." This initiative by itself goes to the heart of the matter in the context of the movement's habitual confrontation with the rich countries, especially at a time when the stature and powers of the U.N. have been considerably enhanced in the wake of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Communist Bloc. By demanding an increased share in the decision-making process within the U.N. system — especially where it counts, i.e., the Security Council — the movement is clearly on a collision course with the permanent members of the council where the West enjoys near monopoly over the council's decision-making process. If the movement sticks to its guns over this particular issue alone, the Western countries are bound to react to such a proposal in the strongest possible terms.

The real issue then boils down to the following: Are the Jakarta summit resolutions only rhetorical as has been the case ever since the movement was founded in 1961? Most probably the answer is in the affirmative because what glues the member countries together under the umbrella of the Non-Aligned Movement is a set of hedge-podge concerns loosely articulated and lacking either the political will or the necessary mechanisms, or both, to translate them into concrete actions.

This shallow and artificial cohesion that cannot blind the member countries together is amply demonstrated by many of the decisions adopted by the summit where there is no linking whatsoever about the political will or mechanisms to make them action-oriented. Take the subject of the Middle East for example. The summiters decided to "vigorously support the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people to secure their inalienable rights and independence and the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab lands." There is little doubt that the intended support for the Palestinian cause is nothing more than a rhetorical one with no intention whatsoever to put meat and muscle on it beyond the ritualistic U.N. voting support that the movement extends to the Palestinians.

The same goes for the conflict in Yugoslavia where the Bosnian people won a condemnation resolution against the Serbs. In neither situation was there any sign that tangible and material support would be forthcoming from NAM to the Palestinians or the Bosnians. As to the familiar concern with the North-South dialogue, NAM produced nothing beyond the traditional remarks about the interdependence of the economies of both groups of states and the need to reactivate the negotiations between them.

On the human rights front, which is the talk of the entire "global village" nowadays, the summit's observations leave much to be desired. In one of its decisions, the movement commits itself to human rights but rejects the so-called "Western concepts" on human rights.

The least that one can say in this vein is that the movement has fumbled and fumbled badly. The reason is obvious and lies in the fact that all the international instruments on human rights were articulated and adopted with the cooperation and active participation of all the nations of the world. To come now, at this late hour, and accuse the West of having manipulated the international standards on human rights is a gross distortion of truth.

NAM may have made an attempt to chart a new course for itself at Jakarta. But it still has a long way to go before it becomes a revitalised, serious movement.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily discussed increased criticism in the Israeli media of Jordan's newspapers' calls on the Arabs to transcend their differences and achieve solidarity in the face of the conspiracy aimed at partitioning Iraq. The Israeli media has been claiming that Jordan's press reflects the fact that no lessons have been learnt from the past events, said the daily. We are not surprised at this evil and hostile campaign from the Israeli media against Jordan as we are used to watching it launching one campaign after another against this country which seeks to reunify Arab ranks, said the daily. The paper said that such an assault on our press can by no means deter Jordan and the Jordanian people from pursuing the drive to unify the Arabs. Jordan will continue to build bridge of understanding and confidence among the Arab states and will continue the drive to rally the Arabs in the face of external danger which this time takes the form of partitioning Iraq, the paper stressed. It said that the Jordanian press represents the nation's conscience and for this reason it will pursue all efforts to help reestablish an Arab World enjoying a brighter future. The students of the Nazi leaders, added the paper, can by no means dissuade the Jordanian press from remaining committed to its national and principled stands. The Jordanian press, said the paper, will continue the drive to defend the truth and endeavour to reestablish a respectable Arab entity.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily focused attention on the role Turkey has been playing in Middle Eastern politics before and after the cold war. It was thought that with the end of the cold war Turkey would not be of much use to the Western world, but the West has found a new role for Turkey in the course of the colonial powers confrontation with Iraq, said Fahd Al Fane. The writer said that Turkey is also assuming a role vis-a-vis the newly independent Muslim states that emerged with the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the Western nations now count on Ankara to protect their interests in these republics in the face of the increasing Iranian influence on them. The writer also drew attention to the fact that Turkey has exploited the differences between Syria and Iraq, the weakness of the Arab World and other factors, and declare that the water of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers are solely owned by Turkey. He said that Turkey is bound to have the upper hand both vis-a-vis a divided and weak Arab World and Iran which is no position to cope with Turkey in the Asian Islamic republics who are mostly Sunni and of Turkish descent. The writer said that the Arabs will be better off if they transcend their historic differences with Turkey and concentrate their attention towards fusing better relations with Ankara.

By Rami G. Khouri

Jordan's opportunity: Where history and elegance coincide

Developments related to His Majesty King Hussein's health during the past three weeks have provided an opportunity to go beyond measuring the people's affection, appreciation, and concern for the King, and to gauge the underlying political condition of Jordan. It may be difficult for most Jordanians — and others who deal with Jordan — to imagine the country under the leadership of another person, given that King Hussein has just completed forty years as a constitutional monarch.

I would suggest, however, that the reality of His Majesty's health should be seen as an opportunity rather than as a crisis, and the opportunity should be seized to assess the full political ramifications of where Jordan stands today as a sub-national Arab polity and where it might be heading in the near future.

We cannot speculate on the King's health other than to assume that for years to come he will continue carrying out his constitutional responsibilities and what he has always referred to as his historical mission. The medical reality of the last several years, however, cannot and should not be ignored, even by those who profess to show their affection for King Hussein and Jordan with a shower of superlative praise.

The reality imposes several questions that should be considered seriously: For how many more years will King Hussein choose to continue shouldering the responsibilities that have defined his entire life? What are the chances that he will experience a recurrence of his cancerous cells? Is there any reason for him to slow down his pace of work because he had a kidney removed? Will this latest health episode rekindle the thoughts he considered about one year ago, when — as he told the country in a speech outlining why we should participate in the Arab-Israeli peace talks — he said he had contemplated abdicating and turning over the constitutional responsibilities of the monarchy to someone else? In other words, is this the moment when King Hussein and Jordan should start contemplating the manner and nature of a transition to a post-Hussein era?

I do not suggest this is a whimsical manner, but rather as a calculated and deliberate response to the human reality of which we have been reminded recently. If King Hussein is likely to need to watch his health more carefully, what does that mean for the country? The general response that I have observed in recent weeks strikes me as evading the question, and abdicating responsibility for the easier route of heaping praise on the wisdom and health of the King. That's fine as an expression of affection, but it leaves several other big questions unanswered.

The mass media's performance has been particularly weak, and inappropriate. The media should have stated the facts clearly and early — the King had a kidney removed because it had malignant cancerous cells, he has no other evidence of cancerous cells in his body, and he is likely to live in good health for decades. Why should Jordanians have to get this news from Israeli and other foreign media? I would have thought that if Jordanians wanted to show the King how much they love him, their best act would be to heed his wishes and behave in a manner that affirms the supremacy of the truth. That, after all, is what he has seen as his life's mission, and what he has tried to do for the last forty years.

The advantage that King Hussein enjoys in considering a phased transition is that he has recently talked in public about his

desire to see Jordanians assume more responsibility for the conduct and management of their country. He has backed up this wish with a relatively smooth political transformation that has seen the country move towards a pluralistic democracy. The passage of the political parties law by Parliament and its coming into effect by royal decree provide a potential turning point in the modern political history of Jordan.

We may now see political and economic power shared more equally between the executive and legislative branches of government, and also between the central and local governments. Everything taking place in the country today points towards a healthy devolution of power and responsibility from the centre to the grassroots. The educational reforms under way, the (slow) development of the mass media, the greater economic role assumed by the private sector, the emergence of political parties, and the growth of special interest groups and NGOs, all point to a new and revitalised Jordanian society that can better address the challenges of the next several generations.

All these developments are in line with the King's expressed wish to see Jordanian people and institutions assume more responsibility for their own governance and well-being. The difficulty for King Hussein is that he has been such a central factor in nation-building for the last four decades that it is hard for him — and for his people — to see his role come to a sudden end, whether he chooses this path by abdication or a gradual transfer of power, or is forced into it by health reasons. This is an occupational hazard inherent in most developing country leaderships. It is all the more reason for His Majesty and all Jordanians to ponder the nature of the succession now, when it can be planned carefully and wisely, rather than to risk the pressures of crisis management in some unknown future scenario.

The logic of a gradual, orderly transition to the post-Hussein era is compelling, on four levels: for His Majesty personally, for his successor, for Jordan, and for the Arab World.

For him personally, it would allow him the opportunity to enjoy the life of an ordinary citizen that has always been denied him since his secondary school days. Of course, he would not be just another ordinary citizen, but he would certainly appreciate the opportunity to enjoy pastimes that have been denied him and his family because of the responsibilities of state.

For his successor, a transition would allow for a period of gradual stewardship that would be invaluable for all concerned, making for optimum governance. The next king of Jordan will face the extraordinary challenge of earning the credibility, respect, and affection that King Hussein has generated in his 40 years of work for his people. This is easier done gradually than suddenly.

For Jordan, the transition to a post-Hussein era will necessarily mean a substantive shift in the manner of governance and decision-making. The last seven decades of statehood have been intimately linked to the personalities of two monarchs, Kings Abdullah and Hussein, both of whom played decisive, personal roles in nation-building. For the last three years, King Hussein has been in the process of overseeing the key elements of the transition to a pluralistic democracy, which will effectively mark

The View from Fourth Circle

the historical highwater mark of the personality element in nation-building.

The transition under way will see the centre of gravity of political and economic power shift away from the central government and its assorted tools of governance (budget, patronage, public order), towards the private sector and local decision-making. That transition will necessarily impact on the nature and function of the monarchy — as King Hussein himself suggested in a television interview last year, when he commented on the future role of the Jordanian monarchy in a democratising Jordanian realm. Jordan's political transformation can be helped along by a gradual transfer of responsibility from King Hussein to his successor, rather than by an abrupt transfer.

And finally, a gradual, managed transition to the post-Hussein era could be His Majesty's crowning gift and message to the rest of the Arab World. It would be a striking show of humility and civility, in a modern Arab political order not known for either of these traits. It would bolster all that he has repeatedly said recently about the need to build an Arab World based on democracy, human rights, and political participation. It would be a dramatic vote of confidence in the nation whose development he has guided almost single-handedly for the last four decades. He could be the first modern Arab political leader to demonstrate that his expressed faith in God, in his people, in his family, and in the institutions of his country and his culture is a reality that — like Arab and Jordanian society — is powerful, transcendent, and meaningful.

The test of a leader's quality in nation-building — ask the Shah, Jaafar Numeiry, and Mohammad Siad Barre, for a start — is not administered during their stewardship, but rather after they leave their leadership positions. King Hussein is one of the few leaders today who has the opportunity to do several rather dramatic things at once: he can provide a model for orderly political transition in a constitutional monarchy that coincides with the transformation of Jordan into a pluralistic democracy; he can personally enjoy the fruits of the nationalhood that he has fostered throughout his life, without the perpetual burden inherent in incumbency; he can continue to give himself and to share the lessons of his rich experience, in a new capacity as an Arab elder statesman who is respected (in contrast with most Arab elder statesmen these days who are discredited, assassinated, exiled, or overthrown); he can provide the Arab World, and the whole of the developing world, with a striking example of political nobility — of leaders who do not cling to power eternally, but who pass it on smoothly, even elegantly, when the moment is opportune to do so.

King Hussein has given much to Jordan and the Arab World during his lifetime, and it is time for Jordanians and other Arabs to think of what they can give him in return. My guess is that after all the expressions of adulation are made and accepted, he would most appreciate the truth about the longevity and authenticity of the Jordan he has helped to create — a sign that what he has built will last.

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M. KAHIL

European union accord — new object of division

By Sally Jacobson
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM — The European union accord was supposed to bring Western Europe closer together and lay groundwork for a superpower that, one day, would rival the United States.

Instead, it has become a cause of division, a symbol of Europe's inability to set aside national differences and yield sovereignty to a central administration.

Leaders of the 12 European Community members negotiated the agreement in secret last December in the Dutch town of Maastricht. It would create a political, economic and monetary union with a single currency and common foreign policy by 1999.

France is the accord's next — perhaps final — testing ground. A French referendum Sept. 20 is seen as a make-or-break vote.

A "no" in France, long a leader in the European unity drive, would kill the accord. Opinion surveys show voters almost evenly divided.

The British government, under fire for negotiating the treaty, plans to withdraw it from parliament if the French defeat it.

Maastricht began unraveling in early June when Danish voters, reluctant to cede some national sovereignty, unexpectedly rejected it. Since, Irish voters have

approved the agreement, as have parliaments in Luxembourg and Greece.

All 12 EC nations must ratify the treaty, which is intended to take effect next year.

A defeat of the accord would not scuttle community plans, under a separate agreement, to create a single market of 379 million people on Jan. 1, 1993. The nations have promised to drop restrictions on the internal flow of money, people, goods and services.

Maastricht agreement proponents say it provides the groundwork for Europe to become an economic and political superpower.

In France, President Francois Mitterrand appeared Thursday in his first televised debate in four years to appeal for voter support.

Mr. Mitterrand said the treaty would enable Europe to battle economically against "the Japanese offensive." He also said the European central bank the treaty envisions would be subordinate to policy decided by EC heads of state.

Unhappiness with the accord has spread throughout the trading bloc.

Some, mindful of past European wars, fear Maastricht will create a Germany-dominated union. French interest rates already are heavily influenced by German monetary policy.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, praising Franco-German friendship during the televised debate, dismissed claims that the accord would create a "German Europe" and said each country would preserve its identity and culture.

The Maastricht agreement would give the EC a greater voice in education, public health and other social policies of member nations. Opponents foresee an expanded bureaucracy meddling in citizens' everyday lives.

To dampen those concerns, EC leaders have promised to limit powers of the community's executive agency in Brussels to matters that cannot be dealt with by national and local governments.

Members disagree over economic and monetary policies at a time of recession.

Germany, paying the hefty costs of reunification, has kept interest rates high, hurting other European currencies. The British pound and Italian lira have taken a drubbing in currency markets.

Many Germans, proud of their strong mark, oppose plans to scrap it for a single European money.

EC nations vowed last year to resolve the crisis in Yugoslavia. They failed in their first diplomatic test, partly because of varying national interests.

"It appears that the EC isn't able to do anything," said

Yugoslavia, said Jan Rood of the Clingendael Institute for International Affairs in the Netherlands, and "that contributes to the opposition" to the treaty.

Germany, angering some of its partners, recognised Croatia's independence before other EC nations.

Mr. Mitterrand caught other EC leaders by surprise when he flew to the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo from a summit devoted largely to Yugoslavia.

His government also has shown more willingness than others to send troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina to help escort relief supplies to the war-ravaged population.

Germany refuses to send soldiers, saying its constitution prohibits deployment of forces outside the 16-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

Britain, mindful of its troubles in northern Ireland, does not want to get deeply involved in the fighting. It finally promised soldiers to protect aid convoys.

But antagonism toward the treaty may stem from something much more basic: lack of public understanding.

"The leaders... have failed to explain in simple terms what Maastricht is actually about," said Stanley Crossick, an EC consultant. "People are objecting to being asked to approve something that has not been explained."

U.S. and the balance of power

By Michael Stürmer

BOON — German reunification and its implications ended 40 years of the cold war. This will not only affect U.S.-German relations in the next decade by placing them in a widely different strategic setting, but also change the rules and unspoken assumptions of the trans-Atlantic relationship.

The two nations will be the key actors in the world of the 1990s, with Germany the chief promoter of European economic, monetary, and political union. The United States is the last superpower, but one without a desire to confront and one no longer willing and able to carry the burden.

America invented itself as the New World while it never ceased to wish to recreate the old in its own image. To thank God for the protection offered by the two surrounding oceans against the tribulations of the rest of the world while wishing to make the world safe for democracy has been the fundamental ambivalence governing U.S. foreign policy in the 20th century. This ambivalence has made U.S. foreign policy less than predictable for friend and foe alike — the last 40 years being a long exception — and it has created an unspoken fear among Americans that they might miss their manifest destiny.

If America refused a role in the destinies of Europe, or retired in bitterness, the Old World would not be a happy place. The United States, meanwhile, would lose, along with its wider engagements, part of its belief in itself and, indeed, much of its self-respect.

Sooner or later, however, the last of the superpowers would have to leave the psychological couch and stand up in order to lead muscle to the new world order. At the end of the 20th century if it is America's privilege and predicament that it cannot escape its role as a leader of the West.

Alas, today the United States is worried about itself more than about the outside world. And this, as seen from the outside, is less than reassuring. Fundamental cultural changes and shifts are under way, the Stars and Stripes are fluttering over an ethnic puzzle. The legal system still carries the marks of its historic origin — the Constitution is an expression of European enlight-

enment and the architecture from Harvard Quadrangle to the Capitol is European Palladianism — but all these may soon be sentimental values.

Looking at German unification and its European conditions, one cannot escape the conclusion that in the future America will have to take up once again the role of the balancer in Europe that England, throughout the 19th century, exercised so masterfully.

Germany and the United States need to formulate a new trans-Atlantic arrangement. In this, Europe will not count so much for its military potential but rather for its conceptual and political cohesion — and whether it can make itself essential to the long-term security and interests of the United States. Here Germany has more to contribute than most Germans would accept after the successful conclusion of the cold war, above all a willingness to take part in painful decisions and their implementation.

Meanwhile, the French president has raised the stakes by asking whether it was time to design a European military strategy. In Germany this was greeted with less enthusiasm than the French had expected. Above all, the French idea would increase the risk of the United States abandoning the Continent, thus pushing Germany even more in the dreaded direction of having to look after its own security.

It would be tragic if the Atlantic nations misunderstood the fragility of the world in transition. The United States still has responsibilities and interests in Europe, both visible and invisible. It will have to balance nuclear power. Beyond the military sphere, it will have to be the team leader in managing the Soviet succession and limiting the chaotic implications.

The old fears and nightmares of European nations both East and West cannot be put to rest while the United States goes into imperial retirement.

Germany will ask the United States for two things: to support the effort to save Eastern Europe from the post-communist abyss and to continue to be the nuclear leader of last resort. The Pax Americana will be a joint venture, or it will not take place — The Washington Post.

Non-Aligned shift seen despite Bosnia row

By Patrick Worsnip
Rabat

SKARTA — Despite a time-consuming row over Yugoslavia, the Non-Aligned summit made a hopeful start in shifting the movement from a forum for anti-Western invective to an economic lobby for the impoverished south, diplomats say.

While Islamic and African ministers bickered over Bosnia, experts from the 106-member group quietly drew up a series of decisions aimed at finally getting a grip on the chronic Third World problems of debt, hunger and over-population.

Indonesia (the host) will be irritated that political issues took the fore but the economic issues went through without much argument, one Western envoy said as the six-day summit ended on Sunday.

He said the economic decisions — standard diplomatic moves like setting up committees and convening conferences — had no guarantee of success and the verdict would be open for at least two years on whether the summit had revitalised the movement.

But the change of tone and the focus on practical problems won praise from officials of developed countries, which have viewed the movement with indifference or

hostility in the past.

Founded 31 years ago as a club for countries that wanted no truck with either the Eastern or Western military blocs, the Non-Aligned Movement became a byword, in the view of its critics, for windy rhetoric divorced from reality.

Many forecast that with the end of the cold war it had no further role and would collapse.

To add to its woes, the movement's chairman for the past three years has been Yugoslavia. Preoccupied by its own disintegration, it has been unable to give any effective leadership since early last year, diplomats said.

But signs of a more sober approach at the last summit in 1989 have been taken up by the new chairman, Indonesia's well aware that a combination of trade and calls for Western policies and calls for Western handouts got the movement nowhere.

Indonesia's attempt to focus on economic problems was partly thwarted by the Yugoslavia dispute — Islamic states eventually forced through a text blaming Serbs for "ethnic cleansing" of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

But one leading Non-Aligned moderate, Cyprus President George Vassiliou, said that in a group of more than 100 states automatically it is obvious that

you must have disagreements." He said the move towards economic issues was inevitable.

Indonesian President Suharto in an opening speech urged North-South cooperation and told any Third World country which wanted to get rich to "bring its own house in order". It was music to the ears even of sceptics like the United States.

"They've taken on board (the aphorism) that God helps those who help themselves," a diplomat said.

In line with Mr. Suharto's stress on "collective self-reliance," many of the initiatives announced in Jakarta depend on so-called "South-South cooperation," a dead letter in the past due to the reluctance of rich oil states to fund their poor neighbours.

The initiatives included:

- Setting up a high-level inter-governmental group to try to ease poor countries' debt burden through talks with creditors
- Creating a task force to bring aid to war-torn and famine-stricken Somalia
- Staging a conference of food and agriculture ministers whose tasks would include devising schemes to relieve famine in Africa
- Holding a ministerial meet-

ing as soon as possible on population growth to spread family planning techniques.

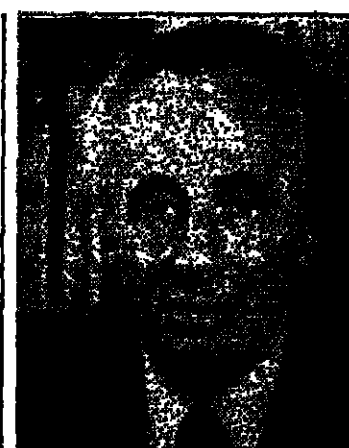
Diplomats said it was impossible to say whether these moves would achieve their aims. But they set out practical goals that would play better with the developed world than resolutions on the fight against "imperialism".

In one perhaps symbolic move, the summit resolved to spend what was left in its Africa fund, hitherto used to support the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, mainly on relieving famine in Somalia and Southern Africa.

On the political front, the summit set up a high-level group to work for restructuring the United Nations. The aim has the sympathy of some wealthy countries even though the Security Council's "big five" — the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China — are unlikely to give up their veto rights.

Diplomats following the summit said one of its main achievements was to drop the clichés and ideological jargon of the past in favour of simpler, more forceful language in its final statement.

"What the Non-Aligned Movement has done is make itself more understandable," one observed.



Shimon Peres

Peres to explore Israel-EC relations

TEL AVIV (R) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will explore linking Israel's economy to the European Community (EC) on official visits to Britain and France this week, a top foreign ministry official said.

Uri Savir said Mr. Peres would also discuss Middle East peace moves plus shared concerns about growing Islamic fundamentalism in the region, poverty, and the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. Peres meets Prime Minister John Major and Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd in London Tuesday before going to Paris to meet President Francois Mitterrand and leading French officials. Britain currently holds the rotating EC presidency.

Israel has long been hoping for preferential trade agreements with the EC similar to those of countries in the European Free Trade Association.

The country's economic growth has been slow. Annual inflation stands at 10 per cent and unemployment is close to 11 per cent as it struggles to absorb more than 400,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union since 1989.

Mr. Savir, deputy director-general of the foreign ministry in charge of relations with Western Europe, told a journalists' briefing last week:

"While politically... we would like in the long run in the framework of peace to be part of a new and peaceful Middle East, our economic, political and ideological structure links us more to Europe."

"We may in the coming months start elaboration of the notion of anchoring Israel to the European Community."

Israel's two-month-old Labour-led government has said it is open to a European role in Arab-Israeli peace talks, which was opposed by the previous administration.

Cases depend on deputies' 'cooperation'

(Continued from page 1)

resence of a prosecution official. Mr. Shbeilat is being held in military confinement for a temporary period according to his lawyer. "This confinement may be renewed for an additional 10 days once the first 10 days are up," Mr. Bakr said.

"There is no good reason why we can't meet with Mr. Shbeilat and why we can't get any information about the evidence against him," said Mohammad Faris Tarawneh, one of the three Lower House deputies who have chosen to join Mr. Bakr in the defence team.

An official source at the prosecutor general's office who spoke on condition of anonymity said that "such procedure is normal under the State Security Court law. Any leak of information, even to the lawyers, could jeopardise the other defendants who have information."

Mr. Bakr pointed out that the State Security Court is a military court in which army personnel will administer the hearings. The verdict will be given by a panel of three judges and their verdict "will not be subject to appeal," Mr. Bakr said.

"If my client is convicted of the crime of threatening the security of the state then the court could

hand down a death sentence," said Mr. Bakr.

In defence of their fellow parliamentarians members of the Lower House have formed a special committee charged with investigating and following up the cases. (see page 2)

The committee, which consists of the speaker of the Lower House, three of Mr. Shbeilat's four lawyers, deputies Tarawneh, Abdul Karim Dughmi and Faris Nabulsi, representatives of the five blocs in the Lower House as well as independent parliamentarians, drafted a letter of complaint which protested the treatment of the parliamentarians are receiving in custody.

"I wrote a letter complaining about their treatment which presumes their guilt before the proof of their guilt has even been presented," said (Mafraq) Deputy Dughmi.

Mr. Dughmi said that while neither he nor his fellow deputies have been allowed access to Mr. Shbeilat or Mr. Qarash, the committee would attempt to have an audience with His Majesty King Hussein immediately upon his return from the United States.

Hekmatyar lists truce violations

(Continued from page 1)

Afghanistan, and of inflicting heavy damage.

Mr. Hekmatyar said the "unholy coalition" had deployed infantry and jets fighters to attack Hezb troops in northern Baghlan province while the secret police of the former communist government had arrested hundreds of Hezb affiliates.

He said militia convoys were trying to reinforce the city, in direct violation of the ceasefire accord, signed by both Mr. Hekmatyar and President Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Mr. Rabbani "wants to provoke the Mujahedeen," Mr.

Hekmatyar said. Blistering artillery and rocket exchanges between government forces in Kabul and Hezb fighting based to the south and east killed 2,000 civilians last month and injured 9,100.

Mr. Hekmatyar did not say whether Hezb-e-Islami had fulfilled its side of the ceasefire, negotiated by a group of neutral Mujahedeen from other provinces.

The interim coalition government has accused the Hezb of violating the ceasefire, one of several signs of tension between rival factions since Kabul fell to the Mujahedeen in April.

Ciskei forces open fire

(Continued from page 1)

looting in a township near the site of the shootings. Radio reports said thousands of ANC supporters had started a sit-in at the Ciskei border after the shooting. The ANC has been trying to topple the Ciskei government, and it is closely allied with the military regime in the nearby Transkei homeland.

Ciskei is one of several "inde-

pendent" homelands set up by the South African government under apartheid to create separate nations for blacks. The homelands, dependent on South African aid, have been failures and most are dominated by authoritarian regimes.

The homelands are expected to be reintegrated to South Africa under a new constitution to share power with the black majority.

U.N. plans monitoring

(Continued from page 1)

ence of other facilities," he said, "we have verified and we have found nothing."

Mr. Zifferero said the question would remain unanswered if more detailed information were not forthcoming, but he added: "I don't believe in the existence of an underground reactor."

Mr. Zifferero is a deputy head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is conducting the nuclear inspectors for the Security Council.

The Security Council ceasefire resolution, which formalised the end of fighting after a U.S.-led multinational coalition ejected Iraqi troops from Kuwait in February 1991, calls for the elimination of all Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Other U.N. teams are concentrating on its ballistic and chemical arsenals. Barrier teams neutralised its germ warfare capability.

Iraq, huddling under a two-year-old U.N. trade blockade, needs the Security Council to say it is complying with the ceasefire terms if it is to have any hope of seeing sanctions lifted.

Mr. Zifferero, whose team was the first to visit Iraq following the imposition over the south of a no-fly zone by the United States and its Gulf war allies, said Baghdad's refusal to give details of its foreign suppliers remained an obstacle.

"We have repeatedly mentioned that there are still a few stumbling blocks on the road of compliance and that the procurement is possibly the most important," he said.

"He said the decision not to open the file on suppliers had been taken at a political level.

"We have not lost the hope that we will be assisted in clarifying this aspect by the Iraqis."

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Edberg and Seles advance at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (R) — Defending champions Stefan Edberg and Monica Seles continued their relentless march through the early rounds with overpowering victories on a day of few surprises at the U.S. Open tennis championships.

World number one Seles demolished champion Gigi Fernandez 6-1 6-2 in 53 minutes to take her expected place in the quarterfinals.

Second seed Edberg extended his perfect record over countryman Jonas Svensson to 8-0 with a 6-2 6-2 third-round win in which he seemed to grow stronger with each winning volley.

Both of last year's winners have stumbled through without dropping a set.

But seventh seed Boris Becker, the 1989 champion, had a much tougher time disposing of countryman Carl Uwe Steeb 6-1 4-6 6-3 to set up a compelling fourth-round encounter with three-time open winner Ivan Lendl.

The German three-time Wimbledon champion seemed to be settling himself as much as his good friend and practice partner Steeb. But Becker found his Wimbledon form in taking the epic 77-minute third set by dominating the tiebreak 7-1 with an array of winning volleys.

Becker appeared to be in control after that as he jumped out to a 3-0 fourth-set lead, but faltered once again as he lost three in a row and faced double break point against his serve in the seventh game.

Determined not to play a fifth set, Becker blasted an ace, saved the next break point and went on to take the last three games to end the three-hour 18-minute struggle.

"This is probably one of the best matches I've played this year," said Becker, a disappointing quarterfinal loser at Wimbledon.

"It's always hard to play against a friend and someone who knows my game so well," he said.

"If he continues to play like he is going to reach the top of his game soon," Steeb said.

Lendl seemed to suffer something of a meltdown after his 6-1 6-2 win over 13th seed Helena Sukova.

Hy, who shook up the women's competition by shocking Olympic champion Jennifer Capriati in the third round, passed the Czechoslovak serve-and-volleyer at will and produced six clean winners in taking the tiebreak 7-2.

Lendl got her real chance to get her head back in the game when she faced Seles in the quarterfinals.

Seles has lost a total of just 13 games in four top-level straight-set wins and looks on course to add her second Open title to this year's Australian and French crowns.

Only fourth seed Gabriela Sabatini appears to have a chance of keeping Seles from her fourth Grand Slam final this year.

Sabatini became the first player to reach the quarterfinals Sunday with an unimpressive 6-1 6-3 win over overmatched Belgian Sabine Appelmans.

The Argentine never approached the form that brought her the 1990 Open crown and will have to raise her level of play in the next round, where she will face seventh-seeded American Mary Joe Fernandez.

"I played okay but not great. I think I played better the first week than I did last year, that's for sure," said Edberg, who also owns two Wimbledon and two Australian Open titles.

Edberg next faces 15th-seeded Dutchman Richard Krajicek, a straight-set winner over Australian Mark Woodford.

"He is always going to be dangerous with the serve he has. He hits as hard as anybody," Edberg said.

The only seeded player to reach the fourth round Sunday was Spaniard Emilio Sanchez, first-round conqueror of sixth-seeded French Open runner-up Petr Korda.

Sanchez survived a five-set epic with brother Javier 5-7 6-1 6-7 7-6 6-4 to set up a fourth-round meeting with 12th-seeded South African Wayne Ferreira, who picked off Australian Wally Masur 6-4 6-4 6-2.

The lone upset of the day once again came from 36th-ranked Canadian Patricia Hy, who reached her first career Grand Slam quarterfinal with a decisive 6-1 7-6 win over 13th seed Helena Sukova.

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Big-spending Italian clubs get limited success

LONDON (R) — AC Milan's early substitution of Jean-Pierre Papin on the opening day of the season provided a sharp reminder for Italy's top soccer clubs that heavy investment does not guarantee instant success.

Champions Milan, who hauled the prolific French goalscorer off after 53 minutes, scraped a 1-0 home win against Foggia thanks to an own goal, but other big close-season investors received less generous returns.

As Roma and Internazionale lost to Pescara and Udinese, sides newly promoted from the second division, while Juventus, Napoli and Fiorentina were held to draws.

But the message that expensive imports do not ensure success was loudest at the San Siro, where for the second week running Papin's replacement, Italian Daniele Massaro played a decisive role in securing victory.

Massaro, who scored the winning goal against Parma in the Italian Super Cup last week after replacing the close-season signing from Marseille, set up the winner six minutes after coming on against Foggia.

AC Milan coach Fabio Capello, who left out Dutchman Ruud Gullit, Yugoslav Dejan Savicevic and Croat Zvonimir Boban, denied Papin risked losing his first team place.

"He (Papin) remains a first choice player, but at Milan we have a turnover system and the freshest players will play."

Englishman David Platt was another expensive foreigner to remain in the grandstand Sunday, when Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni preferred to play German midfielder Andreas Moeller in a disappointing 0-0 away draw with Cagliari.

Platt was diplomatic afterwards. "Of course, I'm disappointed but it's a decision that I've got to accept, and pretend to myself that I'm injured or suspended," he said.

Platt's replacement Sunday, Moeller, was afterwards criticised by Trapattoni.

"I've never seen him (Moeller) get rid of the ball so quickly. Evidently, he was a bit nervous and felt the occasion more than usual," he said.

Real Madrid coach Benito Floro, another close-season arrival from Albacete, was trying to show a brave face after his new side were beaten 2-1 at arch-rivals Barcelona despite numerical advantage.

"We only saw 40 per cent of what Madrid can do," he said.

"The game showed everyone we've taken a step forward. We're getting closer to what we want to be, but we can't afford to stop working at it."

The season-opening clash might have come too early for Madrid and their new coach, but Spanish and European champions Barcelona, down to 10 men when they scored the winning goal, claimed they too were far from ready.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Yasunaga wins Amman golf tournament

AMMAN (J.T.) — Tim Yasunaga was in good form despite Amman soaring temperatures. Yasunaga took the September Club Medal at Bisharat Golf Club monthly tournament with a three underpar 62, three shots under his handicap, and was also the Group 'B' winner. Tareq Afridi took the Group 'A' prize with a score of 65 while K. Sogo was Group 'C' winner on 68. Runners-up were Hanafi Al Hawa in Group 'A' on 68, Adnan Tabaghashi in Group 'B' on 69 and Youssef Musallam in Group 'C' on 73. Another highlight of the club's week was a hole-in-one by Shikhir Dutta at the fourth hole during Sunday's game. The Bisharat Golf Club is open to Jordanian Residents and visitors and is happy to receive new members. Contact Honorary Secretary Wing Commander Mike Bell on tel. no. 823100 for more information. Club member Hanafi Al Hawa offers free coaching sessions at the club Monday afternoons at 4 p.m. for players wishing to improve their performance. The club's next major event will be the Al Dustour trophy competition on Oct. 2.

Boulmerka plans to defend title in Atlanta

DAMASCUS (R) — Algerian Olympic gold medalist Hassiba Boulmerka said Sunday she would defend her 1,500 metres title in Atlanta in 1996. "I wish to continue competing until the year 2000," Boulmerka, in Syria for the Pan-Arab Games, told Syrian Television. "In sports there are surprises, difficult circumstances and economic problems, especially for us in the Arab countries, but I will devote all my powers to continue competing. I will take part in several international events and hope to set world records," she said. Boulmerka, leading her country's 171-member team to the Arab Games, said she would run Monday in the 1,500 metres and possibly the 800 metres in the Syrian port of Latakia where the athletics events are being held.

All At Sea wins at Longchamp

PARIS (R) — Late entry All At Sea proved a misnomer by winning the Prix Du Moulin De Longchamp in the absence of pre-race favourite Azazi. The British filly was entered for the Group 1 mile race Thursday, only after owner Khaled Abdullah paid the supplementary charge of \$18,500. All At Sea, trained at Newmarket by Henry Cecil and ridden by Pat Eddery, beat Irish colt Brief Truce by a neck. English 1,000 guineas winner Hatooft salvaged some French pride with third place two and a half lengths further back while the Italian colt Misl was fourth in a field of 10. But it was the return of Azazi, seeking to redeem his fading reputation after flopping at the Kentucky Derby in May and at Royal Ascot in June, that had attracted the pre-race hype at Longchamp. That ended in anti-climax, with the 1991 French champion two-year old being withdrawn by trainer Francois Boutin when the colt was found to have a swollen hock.

Dear Doctor wins Arlington million

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Illinois (R) — Dear Doctor outbatted favourite Sky Classic and Golden Pheasant in a thrilling three-horse finish to capture the Arlington Million for three-year-olds and upwards at Arlington International Racecourse. Dear Doctor split horses at midstretch, moved inside, and just got up in the final strides under jockey Cash Asmussen. He prevailed by a head, with Sky Classic a neck in front of Golden Pheasant. The win put the cap on an emotionally draining week for Asmussen, trainer John Hammond and owner Henri Chalhoub of France. Just days ago, their best horse of 1991, Arc De Triomphe winner Suave Dancer, was retired from racing because of a minor injury. Suave Dancer was to be entered in the million, but Dear Doctor came instead. "Pretty good reserve," Hammond said. "Suave Dancer was pretty spectacular. He could beat this horse by 10 lengths." Dear Doctor, covered the 1.14 miles (2 1/4 miles) in 1:59.45. Dear Doctor, a five-year-old, earned a winner's prize of \$600,000 for Chalhoub, who has earned more than \$1.2 million, with a record of eight victories in 22 starts.

Morceli sets 1,500 record

RIETI, Italy (AP) — Nou reddine Morceli of Algeria became the first man to run 1,500 metres in under 3 minutes, 29 seconds, atoning for his disappointing performance at the Olympics with a world record at the Rieti Invitational track meet.

The 22-year-old north African, who finished seventh in the Olympic final last month, completed the distance in 3:28.86, breaking the 7-year-old record of Said Aouita of Morocco by six-tenths of a second.

Morceli, who won the world title last year in Tokyo, carefully prepared for his record attempt but said he was not certain of succeeding until he crossed the finish line and collapsed breathless.

"I realised from the roar of the crowd that I had made it," he said, after turning a much-applauded parade lap in front of a capacity crowd. "I devote this record to the Algerian and Italian people."

Other potential world record setters failed in their attempts. Ukrainian Sergei Bubka won the pole vault at 5.90 metres (19 feet-4 1/4 inches) but missed three attempts at 6.13 metres (20-1 1/2), 1 centimetre (a half inch) higher than the world record he set in Padua, Italy.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Study your environment, especially at home and remove whatever is hindering your progress. Use today's good aspects to advance your overall circumstances. Avoid difficult individuals.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Whatever course you have put in effect at your usual duties should be carried through with despite the fact there seems to be some momentary stalemates.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) A delay in attending to what you have agreed to do for your mate should not keep you from doing in a pleasant and agreeable fashion.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Look for the various conditions at your own residence that require some special attention and you can get them as you wish by some persistent effort.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You certainly have some important communications to make and don't put them off any longer after you have thought out just what you want to say.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You would be wise to put more attention now upon the repairs that can be made up or improve the value of your property and possessions so be alert for such.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Your best aspects today include looking into whatever

sources are available whereby you can add to your present operative skill in daily routines.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A discussion with an expert who is in a field of interest to you can show you best how to quickly attain some practical results of importance.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Let a friend who has very good judgement combined with intuitive accuracy advise you where you can best place your efforts now to get the best results.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Whatever worldly interest brings you an opportunity now requires that you put more time and effort in getting them done according to accepted standards.

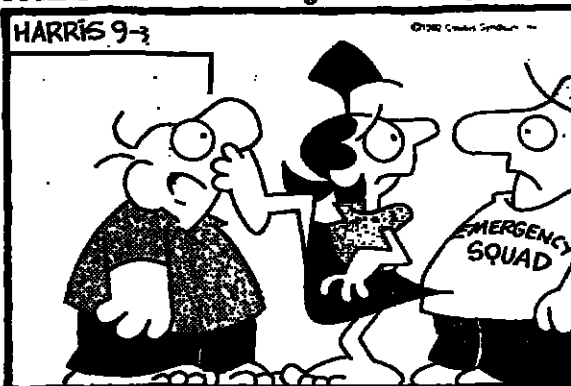
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Your best chance to get a fresh new outlet on some project of much interest to you is to go to a new site and talk it out with an acquaintance.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A very good day to talk one who has any authority over your affairs about whatever progress you have made where your special talents are concerned.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Much conversation with a partner may be prolonged until all the facts and figures are understood but is worthwhile for future accord.

THE BETTER HALF.

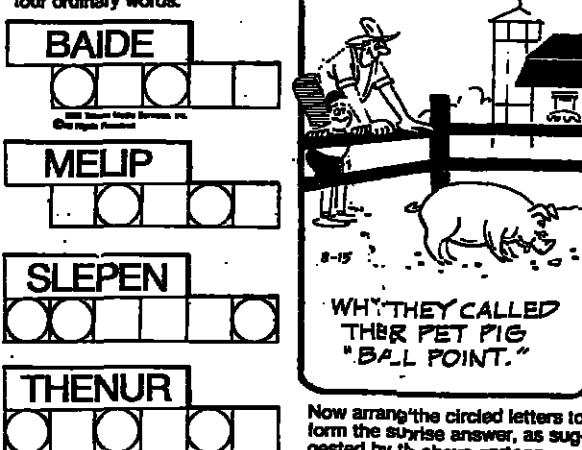
By Harris



"We were playing footsie. She sneezed. Now I can't get her toe out of my nose!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

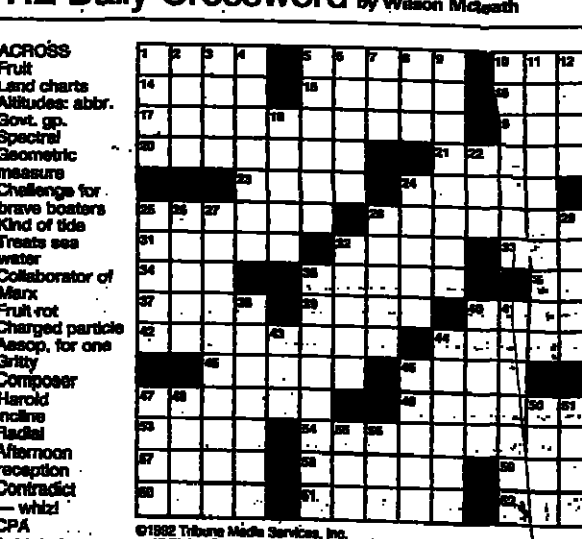


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surly answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: IT WAS "FLAT-TERY"

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLUTE TARDY RARER LOCATE Answer: These words of praise sometimes fall flat—'FLAT-TERY'

THE Daily Crossword by Wilson McGee



- ACROSS**
- 1 Fruit
 - 2 Land charts
 - 3 Altitudes: abbr.
 - 4 Gown, gown
 - 5 Spectral
 - 6 Geometric measure
 - 7 Challenge for
 - 8 Kind of tide
 - 9 Treats sea
 - 10 Collaborator of Marx
 - 11 Fruit rot
 - 12 Changed particle
 - 13 Assoc. for one
 - 14 Grity
 - 15 Composer
 - 16 Harrod
 - 17 Inclined
 - 18 Racial
 - 19 Afternoon
 - 20 Faintest of
 - 21 Contradict
 - 22 — which
 - 23 CPA
 - 24 Automobile's westward
 - 25 That money
 - 26 City near Tampa
 - 27 Sola
 - 28 Pugilist
 - 29 brothers
 - 30 Apartment
 - 31 City
 - 32 Anarchy
 - 33 Wings
 - 34 Depressing day
 - 35 Young salmon
 - 36 Kipling's "hunting"
 - 37 Coin
 - 38 Conjunctions
 - 39 Atlanta
 - 40 University
 - 41 Canonized
 - 42 One's abbr.
 - 43 Smallest
 - 44 7-tape display
 - 45 Night music
 - 46 Place to frequent
 - 47 Dict
 - 48 Duck
 - 49 Actress Bursyn
 - 50 Author Anais
 - 51 Palmer of Scott
 - 52 "Attraction"
 - 53 Malay palm
 - 54 Classroom
 - 55 necessary
 - 56 Sharp ridge
 - 57 Dodger Hall-of-Famer
 - 58 Aquatic birds
 - 59 Capable of
 - 60 being stood
 - 61 Heavy ones
 - 62 Form of lava
 - 63 Ministers (pl)
 - 64 Aloha wreath
 - 65 Frail
 - 66 Scott
 - 67 Ferryman
 - 68 Dash
 - 69 Quick escape
 - 70 Excavation entry
 - 71 Whippersnapper
 - 72 one
 - 73 Stares at
 - 74 50 Numbers

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
A TARIAN HUSCH
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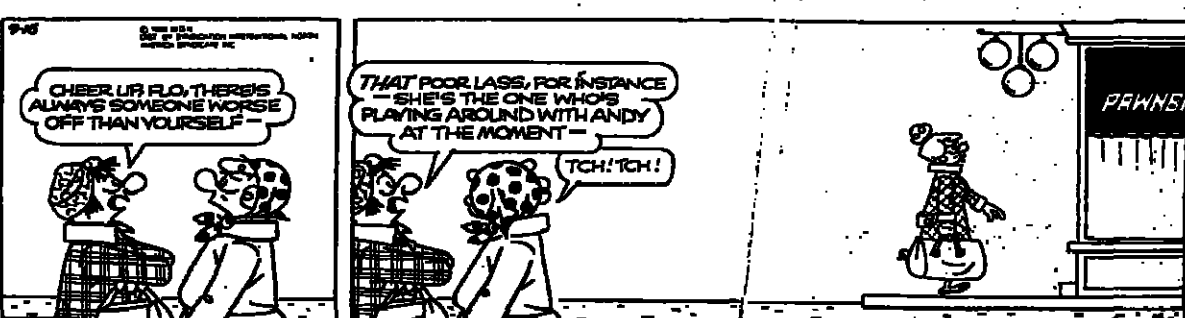
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
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Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



موتا من الجف

Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Sept 8, 1992	Tokyo Close Sept 7, 1992
Sterling Pound	1.9960	1.9950
Deutsche Mark	1.4017	1.4005
Swiss Franc	1.2506	1.2517
French Franc	4.7685	4.7780
Japanese Yen	123.13	123.45
European Currency Unit	1.6645	1.6656

USD Per JSD

European Opening 8:30 a.m. GMT

Source: Reuters

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.12	3.12	3.18	3.38
Sterling Pound	10.06	10.18	10.25	10.37
Deutsche Mark	9.63	9.69	9.69	9.69
Swiss Franc	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.88
French Franc	10.06	10.18	10.18	10.21
Japanese Yen	4.25	3.84	3.75	3.72
European Currency Unit	11.06	11.06	11.06	11.00

Interest rate for 3 months (U.S. Dollars 100,000 or equivalent)

Previous Month	7.9.1992
Gold	342.90
Silver	3.74

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6630	0.6670
Sterling Pound	1.3252	1.3318
Deutsche Mark	0.4726	0.4750
Swiss Franc	0.5777	0.5794
French Franc	0.1390	0.1397
Japanese Yen	0.5389	0.5416
Dutch Guilder	0.4191	0.4212
Swedish Krona	0.1294	0.1300
Italian Lira	0.0260	0.0263
Belgian Franc	0.02291	0.02302

Other Currencies

Currency	Bid	Offer
Baharini Dinar	1.7400	1.7500
Lebanese Lira	0.0230	0.0230
Saudi Riyal	0.1768	0.1782
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2000	2.3000
Qatari Riyal	0.1800	0.1815
Egyptian Pound	0.0000	0.2000
Omani Riyal	1.0000	1.7000
UAE Dirham	0.1802	0.1815
Greek Drachma	0.3760	0.3980
Cypriot Pound	1.6000	1.6000

Source: Reuters

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Index	5.9.1992	6.9.1992
All-Share	143.98	144.16
Banking Sector	105.61	105.55
Insurance Sector	130.36	131.11
Industrial Sector	136.05	136.58
Services Sector	130.55	130.76

Source: Reuters

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.9960/70	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1982/92	Canadian dollar
	1.4030/35	Deutsche marks
	1.5815/25	Dutch guilders
	1.2510/20	Swiss francs
	28.95/99	Belgian francs
	4.7000/50	French francs
	1070/1071	Italian lire
	123.41/46	Japanese yen
	5.1300/50	Swedish crowns
	5.5500/50	Norwegian crowns
	5.4310/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	\$342.85/\$343.25	

Ukraine asks IMF for \$6.5 b

KIEV (R) — Ukraine's prime minister has asked for up to \$6.5 billion from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to stabilize its proposed new currency.

The figure, cited by Vitold Fokin after a news conference, was more than three times the amount the former Soviet republic had previously counted on receiving from the IMF.

"We calculated that until currency reform is completed, we need \$6-6.5 billion," Mr. Fokin said. "The IMF has not declined to give us such a credit and simply asks that we present a standard proposal on how the funds are to be used."

Ukraine, which became a member of the IMF only on Thursday, has previously estimated its required stabilization fund at between \$1.5 and \$2 billion to support its hryvnia currency when it is introduced later this year.

Finance Minister Grigory Pyatschenko repeated the \$1.5 billion figure in Washington Thursday.

Egypt earns record \$3 b from tourism

CAIRO (R) — Egypt drew a record three million visitors and \$3 billion in earnings from tourism in the year up to June but this is just the beginning, Tourism Minister Fouad Sultan said Sunday.

"We're barely tapping the potential," Mr. Sultan told Reuters in an interview. "Tourism traffic will double in five years... it will reach five million tourists."

He said Egypt's moderate politics, good security and diversification were behind an unprecedented tourist boom.

Egypt is now branching out from traditional Nile cruises and tours of its Pharaonic temples to cater for activity tourism, business conferences and political meetings.

Egypt's legions of hotels are jam-packed this year. Its pyramids, monuments, temples and cruise liners are swarming with visitors from all over the globe and even vintage beachers on the Red Sea and Sinai Peninsula are rapidly filling up.

"(Fiscal) year 1992 was one of the best years," Mr. Sultan said. "We did not expect the flow to be that heavy. There are overbookings in travel agencies and

hotels."

He said tourism revenues — known as one of the four pillars of Egypt's economy along with oil exports, expatriate earnings, and tolls from the Suez Canal — hit \$3 billion in the financial year which ended in June.

Mr. Sultan said the Gulf war, which practically emptied Egypt of foreign visitors, cost \$1.3 billion in lost revenues but in the long run may help reverse Western perceptions of the whole of the Middle East as peopled by terrorists and fundamentalists.

By sending 35,000 troops to the U.S.-led multinational force which pushed Iraq from Kuwait and pushing for the Arab-Israeli peace talks, Egypt has gained sympathy and more visitors from the West and the Arab World, he said.

Mr. Sultan said he expected the ASTA World Travel Congress, a major international conference for travel agents, would finally bring American tourists back on tours after cautious travel agents conclude that fears of terrorism are unfounded.

The ASTA conference, which is held in a different venue each year and usually stimulates tour-

ism in the host country, is due to open in Cairo on Sept. 21.

"Terrorism is an international phenomenon. We have the least terrorism of all the countries of the world... everything is under control," he said.

Hoteliers say occupancy in five-star hotels is running at 100 per cent in Cairo and at 98 per cent in Luxor and Aswan and the Sinai Peninsula, which are normally winter resorts for European tourists fleeing cold weather.

Mr. Sultan said the tourism upsurge dates back to 1985, when the government introduced a free-market policy. Since 1986, revenues have more than tripled to \$3 billion from \$900 million and hotel capacity has soared to 53,000 rooms from 25,000 rooms.

Another 14,000 rooms are now under construction, he said.

More than one million Egyptians earn their living from tourism, which makes up six per cent of gross domestic product.

Meanwhile, a Western economist has said the International Monetary Fund (IMF), unhappy at delays in Egypt's economic reforms, is preparing to press Cairo to accelerate the process.

The IMF could raise the issue

by discussing the government's budget deficit in negotiations with Egypt on the remaining part of the fund's \$372 million standby facility, he said.

Egypt has until November to complete an agreement if it is to qualify for a second tranche of more than \$10 billion of debt forgiveness by Western donors.

The agreement with the IMF hinges on reducing the state's total spending deficit to 6.5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) in 1992/93 from 9.5 per cent in 1991/92.

On the face of things, the target has been met. But, the economist said, the IMF is likely to point out that the reduction achieved so far is misleading.

"The budget deficit may actually meet the IMF target... but the IMF will stress that that is without the (public sector) reforms, which were expected to cost two to three per cent of the GDP," he said.

Western donors hurried to put together an economic reform package for Egypt last year after its key role in bringing Arab states into the Gulf war alliance against Iraq. But Western diplomats say uncritical support for

Cairo is ebbing.

The donors are pressing Egypt to sell some public companies and allow drastic management changes to take root in the rest of the sector. Egyptian officials say reforms must be gradual to avoid social upheaval.

Overhauling the public sector, a key part of launching a free market economy, mostly falls under a separate agreement with the World Bank last year. But the bank's ability to pressure Cairo is limited.

Egypt has already carried out key IMF fiscal and monetary reforms, including:

— Currency exchange rates, which were freed and made fully convertible in October last year, four months ahead of schedule.

— Interest rates, which were freed early last year.

— Banking reforms, designed to meet international capital adequacy requirements and make Egypt's banking system more stable.

Although some progress has

been made in trade liberalisation through the lifting of government subsidies and removal of import bans, public sector reform has hardly begun.

Japan firms seen facing 17.9% profit drop

TOKYO (R) — Japan's prolonged economic slump will slash current profits at the country's major companies by 17.9 per cent this financial year, a private research institute has said.

It would be the third consecutive year of profit declines according to the report by Nomura Research Institute. The survey covers 400 companies excluding financial institutions.

Current profit is operating profit plus or minus non-operating revenues or losses. It is the most widely-watched gauge of corporate health in Japan.

The firms will post an 8.5 per cent rise in the next financial year ending March 31, 1994, due to an expected rise in demand, the survey said. Last June, Nomura projected a 10.0 per cent drop in current profit for 1992/93.

"The poor performance in consumption and capital investment, as well as the extended inventory adjustment, are the main reasons for the downward revision," the report said.

A continuing drop in consumption has led to a pile-up of inventories, or stocks of goods.

IATA head says airlines must become more efficient

PARIS (R) — The world's airlines will have to become more efficient to weather the current turbulence in the air transport industry, the head of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has said.

But Bernard Attali, chairman of French state-owned airline Air France, said countries should cooperate to end competitive chaos in the skies.

In a speech to IATA's symposium here, Mr. Attali also attacked the American carriers Transatlantic price war as "collective suicide."

"Airlines owe it to themselves to think hard about reorganising their structures in the years to

come," IATA Director General Eser told the news conference.

"Profit margins are not such as to ensure that air transport can survive in good health in the long term," Mr. Eser said.

In July, IATA predicted that world airlines could lose about \$2 billion on their scheduled international services this year.

In 1991, when global air traffic was hard hit by the Gulf war, scheduled flights lost a staggering \$4 billion, and in 1990 losses came to \$2.7 billion, according to IATA figures.

Mr. Attali said Air France will post losses for the first half of 1992, and will put forward a new plan to cut costs next month in

addition to a current programme to lose 3,000 jobs and slice 1.5 billion francs (\$312.5 million) off annual costs.

He described the turbulence in air transport industry as "most important and most murderous."

In a strongly-worded speech to the symposium, Mr. Attali said fierce and unfair competition was killing air transport.

"In actual fact, the fares war in the U.S. is taking on an air of collective suicide," Mr. Attali said.

He called for the world's transport ministers to coordinate tax and air traffic control regimes across borders.

White House partly blames Germany for dollar weakness

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States blamed the plight of the beleaguered dollar partly on German economic policy Sunday and insisted international confidence in the U.S. economy is high.

White House Budget Director Richard Darman said on ABC Television the interest rate policies of the Bundesbank, the Ger-

man central bank, had contributed to weakness in the dollar by keeping German interest rates high.

"I wouldn't expect a flight from the dollar," Mr. Darman said. "I think basic confidence in the strength of the U.S. economy, which with all of its problems is still the number one economy in the world, will avoid that."

But he added: "The policies of the Bundesbank are contributing to the current problem."

Bundesbank President Helmut Schlesinger said in Britain the U.S. government had acquiesced to the dollar's fall.

The German central bank Federal Reserve, lowered short-term interest rates Friday.

But the policy made the Bundesbank a target of criticism among industrialised nations, including Britain and Italy, which have seen their currencies slide as a result.

The dollar's sharp fall in value against the German mark has made it more difficult for U.S. policymakers to use cheaper credit to boost the economy for fear of aggravating the currency's slide.

The U.S. central bank, the Federal Reserve, lowered short-term interest rates Friday.

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Bosnia's Croat forces break with Muslims; issue ultimatum

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Artillery duels abated by dawn Monday and water was restored to many neighbourhoods after a two-day outage, but the government forces defending Sarajevo expected the siege to worsen.

Croatian forces around Sarajevo Sunday ordered the predominantly Muslim Bosnian troops to leave Croat-held suburbs by Monday or be driven out. It was not immediately clear what prompted the ultimatum.

Croats and Muslims had been uneasy allies in the six-month fight against the Serbian forces that have captured much of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Croat fighters occupy several Sarajevo suburbs that have been critical to the government troops' defence of the capital.

There were no immediate reports of casualties from the overnight barrage of rockets and mortars, which drove Sarajevans into shelters. More than 8,000 people — some estimates say 35,000 — have died since the war began.

Sarajevo's already-desperate living conditions worsened over the weekend when power was cut to the city's main reservoir. Bosnian forces claimed the Serbs were responsible.

By Monday, water was restored to several parts of the city. Capt. Damien McKewon of the Royal British Engineer Corps said Serb and Bosnian engineers had met for three hours Sunday night to restore both water and power to the city.

It was the first such meeting since fighting began around Sarajevo in April.

The Croatian ultimatum underscores the implacable ethnic hatreds that have torn Bosnia apart.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, a Muslim, has called for a unified, independent country.

But Serbs and Croats have taken control of most of Bosnia since a February referendum approved secession from Serbian-dominated Yugoslavia.

Velimir Markic, president of the Croatian militia for Sarajevo, said the Croatian forces headquarters in Mostar had given the Bosnian government until Monday to withdraw from six suburbs around Sarajevo.

"After the ultimatum expires we will use all available measures to liberate Croatian territories," Mr. Markic told reporters in Stup, a western suburb of Sarajevo controlled by Croats. "That could imply a conflict."

The six suburbs, most of whose populations are predominantly Croat, were Stup, Bare, Azic, Otes, Dogladi and parts of Nedzarici, all communities along the city's western front line.

Bosnian forces are surrounded on all sides by Serb fighters, and the government has relied on these suburbs for much of its fuel, weapons and food, which arrive via Croat-Serb cooperation.

Mustafa Hajrlakovic, commander of Bosnian forces in Sarajevo, reacted to the Croat ultimatum by saying, "We have to live in one republic, which is un-cantonised. If they don't agree with that, we will fight until we liberate our territory."

Cantonisation would allow Bosnia's Croats to form close economic and political ties with neighbouring Croatia, ensuring their survival.

But the Muslims have no neighbouring republic to lean on, thus their struggle to maintain Bosnia as an independent military state, with the Muslims in a leading role.

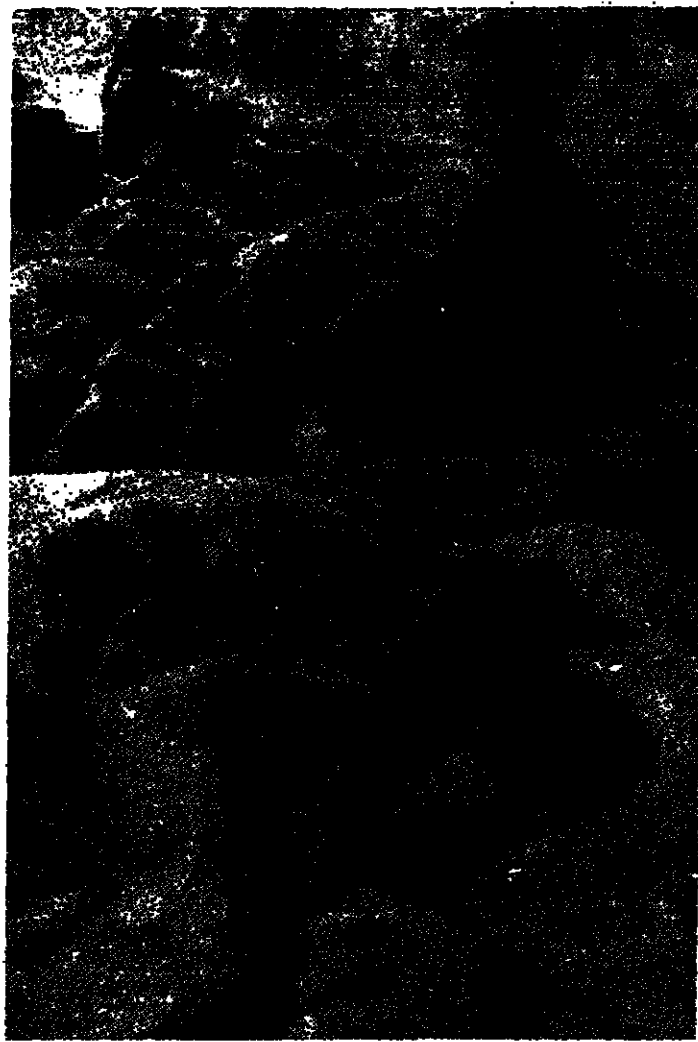
Mr. Markic, the militia leader, said he would not help the Bosnian army try to break the siege of Sarajevo unless he receives orders from his commander, Mate Boban — the leader of ethnic Croats in Bosnia and an ally of Croatia's president, Franjo Tudjman.

Mr. Markic read Sunday from a statement on stationery of the Croatian headquarters in Mostar. It was not clear who had signed the letter, and it was not immediately clear whether Mr. Markic, an ultra-nationalist, was acting with Mr. Boban's backing.

Mr. Markic said that since Aug. 11, the Bosnian army had clashed with his forces six times. He accused Bosnian forces of looting Croatian homes and shelling Croatian positions.

Meanwhile, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said Monday he believed the United Nations could resume relief flights to the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo despite the crash of an Italian aid plane last week.

Asked at a Moscow news conference about the United Nations reaction to the crash, he replied: "I believe we are still able to send humanitarian assistance through Sarajevo Airport and furthermore we are using roads so that



Having fled Bosnia-Herzegovina, Muslim refugees find calm in Karlovac, Croatia.

we can bring humanitarian assistance to the city."

International mediators have been trying to revive aid flights to Sarajevo where thousands of people are short of food and medicine as well as water.

The Italian G-222 transport aircraft crashed in the Bosnian mountains. An Italian general, who visited the crash site, and Western military officers serving with the United Nations in Sarajevo have said they believe the plane was shot down.

Efforts to keep a lifeline of relief open to the city were dealt a further blow Sunday when mortar bombs destroyed a truck unloading U.N. aid at a supply warehouse.

In a separate development, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen will make their first trip to the Balkans later this week as co-chairmen of the new Yugoslavia peace conference, their spokesman said Monday.

The spokesman, Fred Eckhardt, said he could confirm that Mr. Vance and Lord Owen would visit the region but details of their itinerary would not be announced until Tuesday.

Mr. Eckhardt said the two co-chairmen of the new United Nations-European Community Conference, which aims to bring peace to former Yugoslav republics, would leave Geneva this week but gave no date.

Mr. Vance, a former U.S. secretary of state, and Lord Owen, a former British foreign secretary, have said they planned to make many trips to the region as part of their bid to find a negotiated settlement to the crisis.

Tajikistan president resigns

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (R) — Tajik President Rakhmon Nabiyev resigned Monday and was then driven away from emergency talks at Dushanbe's airport, a senior member of the Central Asian republic's parliament said.

"Yes, he has resigned," Saifiddin Turayev, a member of the parliament's presidium, told Reuters after several hours of talks between government leaders and Mr. Nabiyev at the airport.

A Reuters correspondent at the airport saw Mr. Nabiyev being driven away, escorted by Commonwealth and Tajik Interior Ministry troops.

Russia's ITAR-TASS News Agency had earlier reported from Dushanbe that Mr. Nabiyev had been captured by armed opponents at the airport.

Earlier Monday Mr. Nabiyev had appeared for the first time since armed opponents stormed his presidential palace a week ago to demand his resignation.

The bulky, white-haired president was rushed away from the airport in the back of a white Volga car as soon as the talks ended. Cheers ran through a crowd of about 1,000 people outside the airport as rumours of his resignation spread.

Asliddin Sakhidnazarov, a member of parliament who attended the talks, told Reuters that Mr. Nabiyev, former Communist leader who was elected last November, had stepped down voluntarily.

"Why should we need to persuade him? He is an intelligent man... He resigned of his own accord. It was a courageous decision," he said.

"He realised that if he cannot even defend himself, he cannot protect others."

Mr. Nabiyev became the third president of a former Soviet republic to be deposed since the break-up of the superpower last December.

Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia was overthrown by armed opponents in early January and Azerbaijan's President Ayaz Muttalibov fled to Moscow in May after the opposition stormed the Azeri parliament building.

Mr. Nabiyev won 57 per cent of the vote in the November elections, but the opposition, a coalition of Democrats and Islamic radicals, accused him of fiddling the ballot.

The government and parliamentary leaderships last Thursday declared they no longer considered him president. But in a newspaper interview published later the same day he said he was still in power.

Mr. Sakhidnazarov said the duties of running the country would be taken over temporarily by Jamshed Karimov, a first deputy prime minister.

Mr. Nabiyev had been due to leave from the airport for talks in the northern region of Leninabad with local leaders and government and parliamentary officials who had been demanding his resignation.

An airport official said: "He

was due to fly to Leninabad, but there were some shots and some panic." The talks were then held at the airport itself.

Mr. Turayev said: "We decided things this way so as not to go to Leninabad and to avoid further complication."

In other unrest in the former Soviet Union, four Georgian soldiers were wounded overnight in a six-hour clash with militants in the rebellious region of Abkhazia, ITAR-TASS reported.

Georgia sent troops into Abkhazia last month to secure railroads and communications and root out supporters of ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. Abkhazian leader said it was a pretext to crush their independence movement.

The 90,000 Muslim Abkhazians are a minority in their region of 500,000 people, dominated by Christian Georgians, but they are assisted by volunteers from the semi-autonomous Muslim regions of the northern Caucasus within Russia.

Le Zugdidi, another rebellious region of western Georgia, anti-government forces released the National Security assistant to Georgia's governing State Council, ITAR-TASS said.

David Salazaridze had been held hostages since Aug. 11, when he and 11 other government officials went to Zugdidi for talks with Gamsakhurdia's supporters.

Ten hostages were released previously, but the rebels still held Georgia's deputy interior minister, Maj. Gen. Zibert Khazalya.

COLUMN

Japanese women rush to buy Diana scandal book

TOKYO (R) — Young Japanese women hooked on British royal scandals have swept a controversial book about Princess Diana on to Japan's bestseller lists, Tokyo publishing companies said Monday.

Hayakawa Publishing Inc., which launched a Japanese version of Andrew Morton's *Diana: Her True Story* in late July, has so far printed about 350,000 copies, a company official said. That makes it one of Hayakawa's most successful issues this year, he added. Riding on the same bandwagon, a translation of another book, *Diana in Private* by Lady Colin Campbell, has sold more than 50,000 copies since its Aug. 1 debut, according to its Tokyo publisher East Press. After several high-profile visits, the Princess of Wales is a popular figure in Japan, where she symbolises foreign chic. Sales of Morton's book have been helped by a flood of Japanese television and magazine coverage of his allegations that she is trapped in a loveless marriage with Prince Charles, heir to the British throne. The Hayakawa official said Morton's book had risen to number three in Japan's non-fiction best sellers' charts and had not dropped below five since its publication.

U.S. envoy in China to discuss F-16 sale

PEKING (R) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State William Clark arrived in Peking Monday, beginning a one-day mission to try to explain to China's leaders why Washington has decided to sell F-16 jets to Taiwan.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said Mr. Clark arrived on a military aircraft from Tokyo, where he had been waiting since last Friday for Peking to approve his visit.

Mr. Clark's meetings in Peking will take place at a moderately high-level, the spokesman said, although he added that he was not expected to see Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

Mr. Clark's trip is Washington's first attempt to explain its sale of F-16s to Taiwan's President George Bush, announced last Wednesday he was overturning a decade of U.S. policy and approving the sale of up to 150

F-16 jets to Nationalist Taipei.

The decision is expected to lead to a severe downturn in Sino-U.S. relations, which are already under strain due to U.S. criticisms of China's human rights policies, its growing trade surplus with the United States and overseas weapons sales.

China's state media have kept up a barrage of criticism of the U.S. move, which Peking has said threatens seriously to undermine Sino-U.S. relations.

Meanwhile a Taipei official said Monday Taiwan's purchase of U.S. F-16 fighters is intended to check any possible aggression by China as it upgrades its own armed forces.

"We definitely need an air force which is capable of controlling our air space for the sake of regional peace," Taiwan's chief representative in the Philippines, Liu Po Lun, said Monday.

Taiwan needed to buy up to 150 F-16s from the United States to modernise its ageing air force, he said.

"Peking has been trying to acquire more weapons — the most sophisticated and most advanced especially at a time when the former Soviet Union is now dismantling. What is their purpose?" Mr. Liu asked reporters at a breakfast forum.

"We cannot take this lightly. People like that, you cannot take it for granted that they will try to use peaceful means to settle any dispute," he declared.

Taipei was particularly concerned, he said, over possible military action by China to gain control of the Taiwan Strait which separates the two.

"The Taiwan Strait has been peaceful because we are able to have a slight edge over their (Chinese) armed forces," he said.

Skirl of the pipes ends 1992 Edinburgh Festival

EDINBURGH (R) — A triumphant skirl of the bagpipes ended the 1992 Edinburgh Festival, leaving officials and residents to count the cost and assess the benefits of the annual arts extravaganza. Festivals and events have filled streets, theatres, churches and concert halls in the Scottish capital from the beginning of August through to the finale on Saturday night. Financial and artistic returns have been patchy at best. New Festival Director Brian McMaster admitted that he had failed in his aim of eliminating a £175,000 (\$344,800) deficit inherited from his predecessor. McMaster would not give details until he had complete returns but hinted that ticket sales in these recessionary times could be below last year's disastrous 63 per cent of capacity.

Peruvian wins world gold panning title

LEADHILLS, Scotland (R) — A Peruvian living in Italy beat off lashing rain and scores of competitors to be crowned world champion gold panner. Pablo Schwarz from Giverno recovered five tiny pieces of gold the size of grains of salt from 20 kilometres of gravel in four minutes, 33 seconds. Nearly 400 gold panners from 20 countries converged on Scotland's two highest villages, Leadhills and Wanlockhead, for the 15th World Championships.

Rock fans plan new Jimi Hendrix experience

SEATTLE (R) — A millionaire businessman and rock fan wants to build a high-tech tribute to guitarist Jimi Hendrix here in the rock virtuoso's hometown. Spokesman said they want to build much more than a museum and would include high-technology sound and scenery to enable what they expect would be about 200,000 annual visitors to relive Hendrix's music. The complex would be paid for by Paul Allen, one of the founders of the giant computer software firm Microsoft Corp. Seattle-born Hendrix was 27 when he died of a drug overdose in London 22 years ago.

Jerry Lewis kicks off telethon

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Jerry Lewis kicked off his 27th annual Muscular Dystrophy Telethon amid controversy over its so-called "pity" approach to fundraising that reached all the way to the White House. "We've had some negatives and we've had some positives," Lewis declared as the show opened Sunday night. "This could be the best one of all." Hours earlier, Robert Ross, head of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, released a letter to President George Bush that rebuked a federal official who criticised the show for using tragic stories to raise money. Evan Kemp, chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, said Friday that "emotions can be turned on without pity stories. There is a fine line between compassion and pity. You know it in the way you're treated," said Mr. Kemp, who has a form of muscular dystrophy. Mr. Ross complained that Mr. Kemp had ignored Mr. Bush's request to cease criticism of the telethon.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Couple found killed in N. Ireland

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — A couple whose son-in-law was killed by gunmen earlier this year were found shot to death in their home near the Irish border, police said Monday. No one immediately claimed responsibility for killing the couple, identified by local people as Theresa Fox, 54, and her husband Charles, 64. Both were Roman Catholics. Police said the bodies were discovered Monday morning by their daughter, Bernadette McKearney, at the couple's home in Moy, 30 miles (50 km) southwest of Belfast. There were reports last week of intimidation directed at both Protestants and Roman Catholics in the border village. At least two Protestant families received bullets in the mail, and one Roman Catholic family also reported receiving a bullet.

7 Vietnamese hurt in German attack

BERLIN (AP) — Rightist extremists threw firebombs into two apartments occupied by Vietnamese in the eastern German city of Halle, injuring 10 people, police said Monday. It was the highest number of injuries on one day since the wave of violence, directed primarily against refugees, began on Aug. 22. Officials said 20 rightist extremists threw firebombs late Sunday against the door of an apartment occupied by a Vietnamese family in Halle. The flames quickly spread, injuring six Vietnamese and three Germans. In the second incident, radicals stoned and firebombed a Vietnamese woman's apartment, seriously injuring her, the Saxony-Anhalt Interior Ministry said in a statement to the news media.

Bhutto stages walk-out from parliament

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's opposition leader Benazir Bhutto staged a walk-out from a joint session of parliament Monday after the government would not let her make a welcome speech for the visiting Iranian president. Mrs. Bhutto led her opposition People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) into the National Assembly after brief welcoming remarks by the speaker and strode out as soon as Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani had finished his speech. The walk-out was to protest against the government's refusal to allow her to make a speech welcoming Mr. Rafsanjani, said Mrs. Bhutto, sacked as prime minister two years ago by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. "What was the harm in setting a democratic precedent?" she said later.

Tornados hit Kansas

WICHITA, Kansas (AP) — Two tornados struck this midwestern city, causing millions of dollars in damages and leaving 14,000 people without power but resulting in only minor injuries. One tornado touched down in the heart of the city about 7 p.m. Saturday (0000 GMT Sunday) and then skipped east along its busiest thoroughfare. The storm that produced the tornado hit other parts of Wichita with high winds and hail as large as baseballs. Another tornado touched down in southwest Sedgewick County. The storm destroyed several homes, tearing roofs off buildings, blowing out windows and uprooting huge trees.

Major backs Maastricht

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister John Major Monday backed full ratification of the Maastricht Treaty on European union but said it was only part of a wider agenda for the European Community. Speaking two weeks before a French referendum on the treaty, agreed last December in the Dutch town of Maastricht, Mr. Major told an international forum on "Europe And The World After 1992." "Overall the treaty is good for Britain and the world," he added. "I believe what we have won at Maastricht is worth preserving. The easiest way to preserve it is through ratification of the Maastricht Treaty." But Mr. Major, who has been accused by more ardent Euro-philes of a lukewarm attitude to the treaty, said it was a flawed treaty and that if it were overturned by a French "no" the process towards closer European cooperation would go on. Major said: "Important as Maastricht is, we should not let this particular trend of European development blind us to the other issues before us... it is but part of a bigger agenda."

Baboon liver patient dies

PITTSBURGH (R) — The first person to receive a baboon liver in a transplant died late Sunday after a massive stroke, hospital officials said. The 35-year-old man, who requested anonymity, died at 9:45 p.m. (0145 GMT, Monday) at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre's Presbyterian University Hospital, 71 days after his historic operation. The patient had lapsed into a coma after suffering a brain haemorrhage Sunday afternoon, a hospital spokeswoman said. She said an autopsy would be performed Monday and surgeons would provide more information about his treatment and the implications for the future during the week. The patient received his baboon liver in a first-of-its-kind operation at Presbyterian University Hospital on June 28. He needed the transplant because he was suffering from Hepatitis B, a liver disease. The patient's recovery from the transplant had been relatively smooth with only one minor rejection episode reported until last weekend, when he developed a sepsis, or general infection of the blood, after an X-ray examination of his bile ducts.

Seoul cracks major Northern spy ring

SEOUL (AP) — South Korea's National Intelligence Agency said Monday it had uncovered a major ring of North Korean spies, including a leading dissident it said worked for the North for 36 years. The case, the largest in recent memory, involves payment of \$2.1 million from Communist agents for propaganda activity including the startup of a pro-North political party, the Agency for National Security Planning said. It said four people were under arrest and 41 leading dissidents had been questioned as suspects or witnesses, with the investigation still under way. South Korea considers any activity on behalf of North Korea to be espionage, for which the maximum punishment is death. There was no indication that the suspected spies had stolen military secrets.

Tolerance key to peace — Irish president

LONDON (R) — Irish President Mary Robinson said tolerance of diversity was the key to peace in Northern Ireland, South Africa and the former Yugoslavia. Hatred stereotyped and dehumanised people, she told 80 delegates from 22 countries attending the opening Sunday night of an international human rights conference entitled: "Beyond hate living with our differences." The conference brought together for the first time since their release four former Beirut hostages — Terry Waite, Brian Keenan, Terry Anderson and Father Lawrence Jenko — who are to talk about their experiences at a public session. Also attending are delegates from the African National Conference, El Salvador, Croatia and Nicaragua.

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